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Article

The *XMM* Cluster Survey: testing chameleon gravity using the profiles of clusters

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ABSTRACT

The chameleon gravity model postulates the existence of a scalar field that couples with matter to mediate a fifth force. If it exists, this fifth force would influence the hot X-ray emitting gas filling the potential wells of galaxy clusters. However, it would not influence the clusters weak lensing signal. Therefore, by comparing X-ray and weak lensing profiles, one can place upper limits on the strength of a fifth force. This technique has been attempted before using a single, nearby cluster (Coma, $z = 0.02$). Here we apply the technique to the stacked profiles of 58 clusters at higher redshifts ($0.1 < z < 1.2$), including 12 new to the literature, using X-ray data from the *XMM* Cluster Survey and weak lensing data from the Canada–France–Hawaii–Telescope Lensing Survey. Using a multiparameter Markov chain Monte Carlo analysis, we constrain the two chameleon gravity parameters (β and ϕ_∞). Our fits are consistent with general relativity, not requiring a fifth force. In the special case of $f(R)$ gravity (where $\beta = \sqrt{1/6}$), we set an upper limit on the background field amplitude today of $|f_{R0}| < 6 \times 10^{-5}$ (95 per cent CL). This is one of the strongest constraints to date on $|f_{R0}|$ on cosmological scales. We hope to improve this constraint in future by extending the study to hundreds of clusters using data from the Dark Energy Survey.

Key words: gravitation – gravitational lensing: weak – X-rays: galaxies: clusters.

1 INTRODUCTION

An accepted explanation for the accelerated expansion of the late-time Universe (Riess et al. 1998; Perlmutter et al. 1999) is to modify the Einstein equation, either by adding a component to the energy–momentum tensor via dark energy or to the Einstein tensor via a

modification to gravity (Milgrom 1983; Clifton et al. 2012). The latter often involves the introduction of a scalar field coupled to the matter components of the Universe, giving rise to a fifth force of the same order of magnitude as gravity (Jain, Vikram & Sakstein 2013). Through a variety of experiments and astronomical observations, this fifth force has been demonstrated to be negligible at terrestrial and Solar system densities (Wagner et al. 2012). Therefore, if a fifth force does exist it must be it must be suppressed, or 'screened', in high-density regions and only take effect in low-density regions.

One model with such a screening is the chameleon mechanism (Khoury & Weltman 2004). In this approach, the scalar field coupling strength is sensitive to the depth of the local gravitational potential. In regions with a large potential well, this screening suppresses the fifth force and gravity behaves as predicted by general relativity (GR). However when the potential becomes small, the fifth force is unsuppressed and gravity becomes 'modified' compared to GR (Lombriser 2014).

By definition, the chameleon field satisfies

$$\nabla^2 \phi = V_{,\phi} + \frac{\beta}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \rho \tag{1}$$

(Khoury & Weltman 2004), where V is the potential of the scalar field, β is the coupling between matter and the scalar field, ϕ gives the position-dependent screening efficiency, M_{Pl} is the *Planck* mass and ρ is the matter density. This leads to the chameleon fifth force of

$$F_\phi = -\frac{\beta}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \nabla \phi. \tag{2}$$

There is a particular set of gravity models, known as $f(R)$ models (Buchdahl 1970) which exhibit a chameleon, where the strength of the fifth force (parametrized by β in equation 1) has a fixed value $\beta = \sqrt{1/6}$. This force arises from adding a scalar function $f(R)$ to the Ricci scalar in the Einstein–Hilbert action (Capozziello 2002; Nojiri & Odintsov 2003). These models can reproduce observed late time acceleration of the Universe whilst still suppressing the fifth force in high-density environments, such as the Solar system (Chiba, Smith & Erickcek 2007). These $f(R)$ models possess an extra scalar degree of freedom, $f_R = \mathrm{d}f/\mathrm{d}R$, where the value at the current epoch is $|f_{R0}|$ (Sotiriou & Faraoni 2010). Then $f(R)$ gravity can be related to ϕ_∞, (ϕ in equation 2 at infinity) via the relation (Joyce et al. 2015)

$$f_R(z) = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{\phi_\infty}{M_{\text{Pl}}}. \tag{3}$$

Hu & Sawicki (2007) provide theoretical arguments showing that for GR to be preserved at parsec scales within the Solar system, then $|f_{R0}| < 10^{-6}$. At kiloparsec scales, Jain et al. (2013) constrained $|f_{R0}| < 5 \times 10^{-7}$ in dwarf galaxies. On megaparsec and larger scales, Raveri et al. (2014) used the cosmic microwave background (CMB) to measure $|f_{R0}| < 10^{-3}$. Also on large scales, Rapetti et al. (2011), Ferraro, Schmidt & Hu (2011) and Cataneo et al. (2014) used the abundance of galaxy clusters to constrain $|f_{R0}|$, e.g. Cataneo et al. (2014) measured (under the assumption of $n = 1$), $|f_{R0}| < 2.6 \times 10^{-5}$.

In this paper, we also use clusters of galaxies to constrain $|f_{R0}|$ on megaparsec scales. However, unlike Rapetti et al. (2011), Ferraro et al. (2011) and Cataneo et al. (2014), we use cluster profiles, rather than abundances to do so. The hypothesis is that a fifth force would be screened in the dense cluster cores, but not in the rarefied cluster outskirts (Burikham & Panpanich 2012; Lombriser et al. 2012). The

majority of baryonic matter in a cluster is ionized gas that has been pressure-heated to temperatures in excess of 10^7 K (Gursky et al. 1971; Loewenstein 2004), leading to the emission of X-rays via thermal bremsstrahlung radiation (Jones & Forman 1978; Sarazin 2009). The gas can also be observed indirectly through its influence on the cosmic background radiation, via the so-called Sunyaev–Zel'dovich (SZ) effect (Sunyaev & Zeldovich 1980).

By measuring the properties of this X-ray gas, we are able to infer, under the assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium, the cluster mass and density from its X-ray surface brightness or SZ effect profiles (Reiprich & Böhringer 2002; Kettula et al. 2014). In a chameleon gravity model, the intracluster gas would feel the fifth force in addition to gravity in the cluster outskirts, i.e. the gas will be slightly more compact and the temperature boosted (Arnold, Puchwein & Springel 2014), compared to the influence of GR alone.

By contrast, weak gravitational lensing is dependent only upon the gravitational deflection of light by matter along the line of sight, therefore providing a technique to measure the underlying mass distribution without assuming hydrostatic equilibrium. Crucially for this study, the fifth force would not modify the deflection of light through the cluster (compared to GR) because the scalar chameleon field is coupled to the trace of the energy–momentum tensor (Hui, Nicolis & Stubbs 2009). Therefore, we can search for evidence of a fifth force by comparing the X-ray surface brightness, and/or SZ effect, profiles of clusters with their gravitational lensing shear profiles (Ostriker & Vishniac 1986; Terukina & Yamamoto 2012).

Terukina et al. (2014) used this approach to constrain $f(R)$ gravity models using a combination of lensing shear, X-ray surface brightness, X-ray temperature, and SZ profiles for the Coma cluster (a massive cluster at $z = 0.02$). Combining these measurements, they performed a Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) analysis of the parameter space describing the cluster profiles in the modified gravity regime. Under the assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium, they obtained constraints of $|f_{R0}| < 6 \times 10^{-5}$. They also examined the assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium, and concluded that any contribution of non-thermal pressure was small compared to the reconstructed mass.

The Coma cluster is at low redshift meaning its weak lensing shear signal is low. Moreover, it is known to have non-spherical geometry (Fitchett & Webster 1987; Briel, Henry & Boehringer 1992; Colless & Dunn 1996). These factors motivate us to apply the Terukina et al. (2014) method to many more clusters at higher redshifts, allowing for a higher signal-to-noise weak lensing shear profile and an averaging out of non-spherical cluster shapes. We do this by comparing stacked X-ray surface brightness and shear profiles of 58 X-ray-selected clusters. We utilize high-quality weak lensing data from the Canada–France–Hawaii Telescope Lensing Survey (CFHTLenS; Heymans et al. 2012; Erben et al. 2013), and X-ray observations from the *XMM* Cluster Survey (XCS; Romer et al. 2001; Lloyd-Davies et al. 2011; Mehrtens et al. 2012). We also investigate the Terukina et al. (2014) conclusion that deviations from hydrostatic equilibrium do not invalidate the chameleon gravity test.

In Section 2, we review the underlying theoretical background. In Section 3, we describe the development of the cluster sample used in the analysis, and the MCMC methods used to simultaneously fit the X-ray surface brightness and weak lensing profiles. In Section 4, we discuss our results and the implications of our results in the framework of $f(R)$ gravity models. In Section 5, we discuss the influence of cluster environment and of our assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium. In Section 6, we present our conclusions. Throughout this paper, we use a 95 per cent confidence level

when quoting upper limits, adopt a cosmology with $\Omega_m = 0.27$, $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.73$, and $H_0 = 70$ km s^{-1} Mpc^{-1}.

2 THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

In this study, we adopt the Navarro–Frenk–White (NFW; Navarro, Frenk & White 1996) model for the dark matter halo mass distribution:

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_c \delta_c}{\frac{r}{r_s}(1 + \frac{r}{r_s})^2}, \tag{4}$$

where r here and throughout is the radial distance from the halo centre, $\rho_c = 3H^2(z)/8\pi G$ is the critical density at a given redshift, $H(z)$ is the Hubble parameter at a given redshift, G is Newton's gravitational constant, δ_c is the characteristic overdensity, given by

$$\delta_c = \frac{200}{3} \frac{c^3}{\ln(1+c) - c/(1+c)}, \tag{5}$$

where c is a dimensionless concentration parameter and r_s is the scale radius given by

$$r_s = \frac{1}{c} \left(\frac{3M_{200}}{4\pi \rho_c \delta_c} \right)^{1/3}, \tag{6}$$

where M_{200} is the mass enclosed by r_{200}, the radius at which the dark matter haloes average density is 200 times the critical density,

$$M(<r_{200}) = 4\pi \delta_c \rho_c r_s^3 \left(\ln(1+c) - \frac{c}{1+c} \right). \tag{7}$$

The NFW profile described in equation (7) is well supported by *N*-body simulations of Λ cold dark matter, but it is not immediately obvious that this profile would pertain to cluster profiles in the $f(R)$ regime. However, it has been shown (Lombriser et al. 2012; Moran, Teyssier & Li 2015) that the NFW profile is able to provide fits to both modified gravity and concordance cosmology that are equally good, sharing the same χ^2. It should be noted that the simulations in Lombriser et al. (2012) were generated using a fixed $\beta = \sqrt{1/6}$, as opposed to the general chameleon gravity model investigated here. However, as we are probing a β range around this value, we expect any modifications to the profiles to be similar, suggesting the suitability of the NFW profile. Further checks using hydrodynamical simulations of modified gravity models would allow this assumption to be verified.

We adopt the Terukina et al. (2014) approach describing the chameleon mechanism using three parameters. The first of these, β, is the coupling between matter and the scalar field (see equation 1). The second, ϕ_∞, describes the position-dependent screening efficiency. The third, r_{crit}, is a critical radius, i.e. the distance from the dark matter halo centre at which the screening mechanism takes effect (Terukina & Yamamoto 2012),

$$r_{crit} = \frac{\beta \rho_s r_s^3}{M_{Pl} \phi_\infty} - r_s, \tag{8}$$

where ρ_s is the density at this radius.

Terukina & Yamamoto (2012) showed the hydrostatic equilibrium equation in the presence of a fifth force (equation 2) is

$$\frac{1}{\rho_{gas}(r)} \frac{dP_{gas}(r)}{dr} = -\frac{GM(<r)}{r^2} - \frac{\beta}{M_{Pl}} \nabla\phi, \tag{9}$$

where ρ_{gas} is the gas density, M the total mass within a radius r and P_{gas} is the electron pressure.

In an ideal cluster, i.e. one that is isolated, isothermal, and spherical, this total pressure is felt by the electrons and ions in the ionized intracluster plasma, so that $P_{gas} = n_e kT$, where n_e is the electron number density and T is the electron temperature. By adopting the standard *beta-model*[1] electron density profile (e.g. Cavaliere & Fusco-Femiano 1978), we can integrate equation (9) to give

$$P_e(r) = P_{e,0} + \mu m_p \int_0^r n_e(r) \left(-\frac{GM(<r)}{r^2} - \frac{\beta}{M_{Pl}} \frac{d\phi(r)}{dr} \right) dr, \tag{10}$$

where $P_{e,0}$ is the electron gas pressure at $r = 0$, given by $P_{e,0} = n_{e,0}kT$ and $n_{e,0} = 5n_0/(2 + \mu)$ and $M(<r)$, the halo mass. The integral of equation (10) can be re-expressed in terms of a projected X-ray surface brightness $S_B(r)$ using the temperature- and electron-density-dependent cooling function (see Section 3.2),

$$S_B(r_\perp) = \frac{1}{4\pi(1+z)^4} \int n_e^2 \left(\sqrt{r_\perp^2 + z^2} \right) \lambda_c(T_{gas}) dz, \tag{11}$$

where $r_\perp$ is the projected distance from the cluster centre and z the cluster redshift. This is the expression we fit to when comparing stacked X-ray cluster profiles to the chameleon model (Section 3.5).

The expression used to fit the weak lensing shear profiles (under the assumption of an underlying NFW profile) for comparison is given in Wright & Brainerd (2000).

To recap, our method makes the following assumptions: that modifications to GR include a chameleon screening mechanism and can be described by equation (1); that dark matter haloes follow an NFW profile (equation 4); that a fifth force can be included in the hydrostatic equilibrium expression according to equation (9); that clusters of galaxies are isolated, isothermal and spherical (which in turn implies that the clusters are in hydrostatic equilibrium, have an electron number density that follows a *beta-model* and their X-ray emission can be predicted from a thermal cooling function); and that the weak lensing shear profiles of clusters are given in Wright & Brainerd (2000). We discuss the impact of some of these assumptions in Section 5.

3 METHODS

3.1 Compiling the X-ray cluster sample

In this paper, we used public weak lensing data (galaxy ellipticities and photometric redshifts) provided by the CFHTLenS (Heymans et al. 2012). The CFHTLenS covers 154 deg^2 with high-quality shape measurements. The galaxy ellipticities were generated by the CFHTLenS team using the THELI (Erben et al. 2013) and LENSFIT (Miller et al. 2013) routines. Photometric redshifts were produced using PSF-matched photometry to an accuracy of $0.04(1 + z)$ with a 4 per cent catastrophic outlier rate (Hildebrandt et al. 2012).

We also used public X-ray data taken from the *XMM–Newton* archive and have collated a sample of X-ray clusters in the CFHTLenS region using pipelines developed for the XCS (Lloyd-Davies et al. 2011). First, we determined which of the *XMM* observations overlapped with the CFHTLenS fields. We then used the XCS pipelines to carry out the following tasks in an automated manner: cleaning the event lists of background flares; creating detector and exposure images; producing duplicate free source lists; and identifying extended X-ray sources. A total of 348 extended *XMM* sources, with more than 100 background-subtracted photon

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[1] The *beta* in this model is not the same as the β in equation (1).

counts, were located in the CFHTLenS fields, although 44 were close to the edge of the *XMM* field of view and were not considered further (please see Lloyd-Davies et al. 2011 for the relevant, XCS specific, definition of source counts).

The majority of these sources were not included in the XCS first data release (XCS-DR1; Mehrtens et al. 2012). This meant that candidate identification needed to be carried out before the sources could be used in our study. This process is non-trivial: as shown in Mehrtens et al. (2012), a large fraction of XCS extended sources (especially those with fewer than 300 counts) are either hard to confirm as clusters – because the available imaging is not deep enough – or are associated with other types of X-ray source. Therefore, for this paper, we have taken a conservative approach and only included *XMM* extended sources in our study if they correspond to an overdensity of galaxies in false colour images produced using the CFHTLenS cutout service.[2] 186 sources were excluded from the study as a result. These were excluded for several different reasons: there were no optical data as the cluster sat in a masked region of the CFHTLenS footprint; there was a bright star or galaxy lying close to the cluster centre that was obscuring it; or the optical image resembled an AGN rather than a cluster. The coordinates of the remaining 119 can be found in Table B1.

As our analysis required information about the distance to the cluster, a further 37 sources were excluded from the study because redshifts were not available at the time of writing. These are flagged with a 2 in Table B1. The majority (63 of 82) of the redshifts we used came from the new Gaussian mixture model redshift estimator described in detail in Hood & Mann (2015). We also used 18 redshifts taken from NED[3] and 3 from Ford et al. (2014).

We judged these remaining 82 *XMM* extended sources in the CFHTLenS region to be confirmed clusters and ran them through the XSPEC-based XCS spectral pipeline. We determined X-ray temperatures when the signal to noise was sufficient. This produced X-ray temperatures of 58 of these clusters which form our final sample, including 12 clusters new to the literature, the other 23 clusters were excluded from the analysis and are flagged with a 3 in Table B1. The details of this pipeline can be found in Lloyd-Davies et al. (2011). These 58 clusters with measured temperatures span the redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.2$ (median $z = 0.33$) and temperature range $0.2 < T_x < 8$ keV (median $T_x = 2.3$ keV). A selection of these new to the literature clusters, along with several clusters that were optically confirmed but excluded due to a lack of redshift, are shown in Fig. C1.

3.2 Making stacked X-ray surface brightness profiles

Our analysis involves stacking multiple different *XMM* observations of our 58 clusters, in order to build up signal to noise in the outer parts of the ensemble cluster profile. This process needs to account for the following complexities: most of the 58 clusters were covered by more than one *XMM* observation. Each of these observations has different background properties and flare corrected exposure times. The X-ray telescope comprises of three cameras that operate simultaneously (mos1, mos2, pn), so most *XMM* observations comprise of three separate images with different, energy-dependent sensitiv-

[2] http://www.cadc-ccda.hia-iha.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/community/CFHTLens/cutout.html
[3] The NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED) is operated by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ities. The clusters all have different energy spectra, because, even if one ignores non thermal processes, they have different X-ray temperatures, redshifts and line of sight absorbing column densities. Therefore, for each cluster, we have to calculate, using XSPEC, camera-specific count rate to luminosity conversion factors for each *XMM* observation that it falls in. We then, for a given cluster, take the photon count images generated by the XCS pipeline, divide these by the respective exposure map and multiply by the cluster-dependent conversion factor. This allows us to combine all the images for that cluster in a self-consistent manner.

To produce a single stack, we first re-scaled the 58 combined images of individual clusters to a standard projected size. For this we estimated M_{500}, the mass enclosed within a sphere at which the average density is 500 times the critical density, using the prescription described in Sahlén et al. (2009). A conversion between M_{500} and M_{200} was made following the formulae derived in Hu & Kravtsov (2003), where we assume $c = 5$. This is an accurate description of the typical density profiles in clusters (Arnaud 2005) and is consistent with the findings of Kettula et al. (2014) in the CFHTLenS region. Using the M_{200} values we calculated the radius at which the average density is 200 times the critical density, r_{200}, following the method in Croston et al. (2008). The 58 stacked images could then be re-scaled using linear interpolation to a common 500 by 500 pixel format, so that they each had an r_{200} radius of 125 pixels. Each of these 500 by 500 images was centred on the source centroid as determined by XCS.

We re-scaled the individual cluster images by the overall amplitude of their X-ray surface brightness, as adding clusters over a range of different masses and luminosities would result in significant off-diagonal elements in the covariance matrix of the final stacked profile. Therefore, we calculate the mean value of the X-ray surface brightness profile for each cluster, and re-scale individual cluster surface brightness maps by this value (we found that using the median value instead of the mean gave similar results). A final stacked surface brightness map of the 58 individual clusters is then produced by taking the mean value for each pixel across all these maps. This re-scaling of the amplitudes is permitted as our constraints on modified gravity parameters focus on the shape of the cluster profiles; we marginalize over the amplitudes of the stacked X-ray surface brightness profiles in Section 4. The error covariance matrix of the stacked profile was then measured directly.

3.3 Making stacked weak lensing profiles

We outline here the procedure used to obtain the stacked cluster shear profile, γ_t, using source galaxies from CFHTLenS. The CFHTLenS catalogue provides measurements of both ellipticity components (e_1 and e_2), as well as photometric redshifts for each source galaxy. Before shears can be derived from these quantities, small multiplicative and additive corrections (m and c_2) must be applied, derived from the data set. We calculate c_2 and m for each galaxy as a function of size and signal to noise (using equations 17 and 19 in Heymans et al. 2012). Each galaxy was weighted with the CFHTLenS catalogue WEIGHT parameter and calibrated by
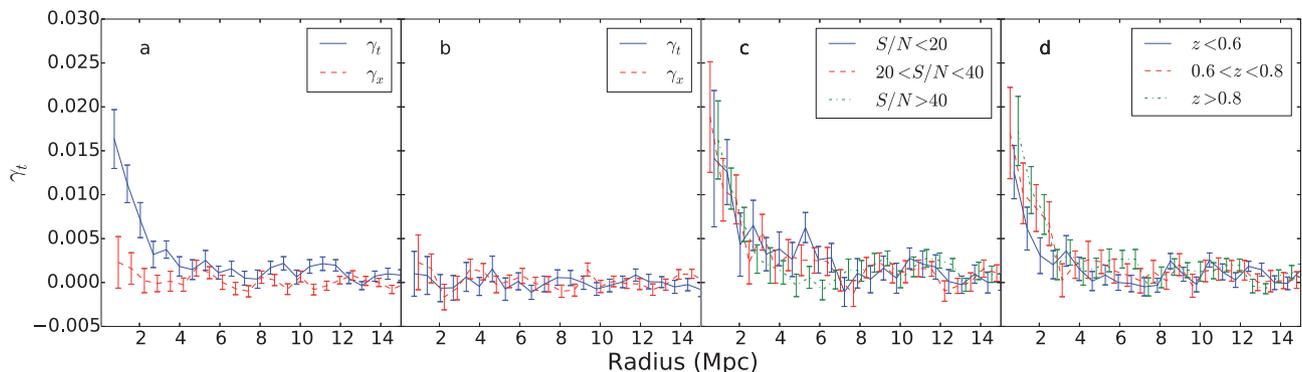
$$e_{\mathrm{int,i}} = \frac{e_i - c_{2,i}}{1 + \bar{m}}, \tag{12}$$

where c_2 was applied on a galaxy by galaxy basis and $\bar{m}$ is a summation of $1 + m$ for each galaxy, applied as an ensemble average to each radial bin (discussed below).

We have an effective galaxy density, n_{eff}, (Heymans et al. 2012) of 12 galaxies per arcmin^2. In order to minimize the contamination

Figure 1. Tests around the 58 CFHTLenS stacked cluster; details are provided in the text. 1(a) Tangential and cross shear. 1(b) Tangential and cross shear around 58 stacked random points. 1(c) Tangential shear for three different signal-to-noise bins. 1(d) Tangential shear for three different redshift cuts.

between the lensed galaxies and the cluster members, we only use source galaxies with a photometric redshift greater than $z_{cluster} + 0.2$. Our redshift cut is made so that there is negligible contamination between cluster and source galaxies. The photo-z cut does not require a redshift dependence as the photo-z errors of the source galaxies in CFHTLenS are approximately flat close to the redshift of our clusters (Hildebrandt et al. 2012).

For each galaxy, we calculate the tangential and cross shears (γ_t, γ_x) as a function of their position relative to the cluster position, via the angle ϕ between the cluster and galaxy from a baseline of zero declination. The tangential shear measured around each XCS-determined cluster centroid was binned into 24 equal spaced logarithmic annuli out to a distance of $10 \times r_{200}$ (calculated in Section 3.2). We then scaled the values in each of these bins in the same way that we previously scaled the X-ray profiles in Section 3.2 for consistency.

Finally, in order to improve the signal to noise of the tangential profiles, the 58 individual cluster profiles were stacked. This was achieved by summing the profiles of each cluster and calculating an average shear in each bin across all clusters (McKay et al. 2001; Sheldon et al. 2009). The error covariance matrix was then directly measured for our stacked profile. Due to the large uncertainty in the central bin, driven by the low number density of galaxies, we exclude the central $0.1 \times r_{200}$.

We perform consistency and null tests upon the CFHTLenS shape data to ensure our recovered profiles are unbiased and not artefacts of the data. Fig. 1(a) shows the tangential signal (solid blue) and the cross shear (dashed red) around the stacked clusters. The tangential shear signal has a detection significance of $>30\sigma$ while the cross shear signal is consistent with zero at all radii.

Fig. 1(b) shows the tangential shear (solid blue) and cross shear (dashed red) around 58 random stacked positions within the overlap of the CFHTLenS region and the XCS footprint. The measurements in both these cases were found to be consistent with zero on all scales.

For Fig. 1(c), we show the tangential shear around the stacked clusters after we have split the source galaxies into three bins based upon their signal-to-noise ratio, $S/N < 20$, $20 < S/N < 40$, and $S/N > 40$, with similar redshift distributions (median redshifts of 0.85, 0.82, 0.79, respectively). We find that the three measurements are consistent with each other as expected.

Finally, Fig. 1(d) shows the tangential shear around the stacked clusters with the source galaxies cut into three bins based upon their photometric redshift, $z < 0.6$, $0.6 < z < 0.8$ and $z > 0.8$. At higher redshifts there are a smaller fraction of cluster galaxies and galaxies

in front of the clusters, and the weak lensing signal grows with redshift. We see these effects as our measured signal is strongest in the high-redshift bin. We therefore conclude that we are detecting a genuine weak lensing signal.

3.4 Binning in X-ray temperature

To generate tighter constraints upon the modified gravity parameters, we split our data set into two separate mass bins to reduce errors caused by mixing clusters of varying sizes and masses. We find doing so improves our constraints on the modified gravity parameters compared to using a single bin. We cut at an X-ray temperature of $T = 2.5$ keV, to give two bins of mass with equal errors on their stacked profiles. We note that this temperature cut approximately cuts our sample into galaxy clusters and galaxy groups (Stott et al. 2012). Our low-temperature bin ($T < 2.5$ keV) has a median redshift of $z = 0.32$ and is flagged with a 0 in Table B1, while the other (with $T > 2.5$ keV) has a median redshift of $z = 0.34$ and a flag of 1. We repeated the analyses with three and four temperature bins and found no improvement in the constraints on the modified gravity parameters. Therefore, to aid with computation, we complete our analysis with the simplest two bin case.

3.5 MCMC analysis

We use MCMC (Gilks, Richardson & Spiegelhalter 1996) to fit models to our stacked profiles. We allow all parameters that depend upon the cluster properties to vary for each temperature bin. This leads to a total of 14 free parameters for the four stacked profiles (our measured weak lensing and X-ray profiles in two temperature bins) used to constrain modified gravity. Four of these were used to model the weak lensing mass (defined in equations 4, 5 and 6). We introduce the notation I, II to indicate the temperature bins $T < 2.5$, $T > 2.5$, respectively, so c^I, c^{II}, M_{200}^I and M_{200}^{II} are the concentration and mass parameters for each temperature bin, respectively.

We modelled the X-ray surface brightness, using the method prescribed in Section 2 by defining, for both temperature bins, the electron number density (itself dependent upon n_0^I, n_0^{II}, b_1^I, b_1^{II}, r_1^I and r_1^{II}), and the normalization of the gas temperature T_0^I and T_0^{II}. We reconfigure the parameters as $\beta_2 = \beta/(1 + \beta)$ and $\phi_{\infty,2} = 1 - \exp(-\phi_\infty/10^{-4} M_{Pl})$ to span the parameter range of β and ϕ_∞ in the interval [0,1]. To obtain the cooling function (used in equation 11), we used the XSPEC software (Arnaud 1996) and utilize the APEC model (Smith et al. 2001) over a range of 0.5–2 keV, i.e. the

same energy range as our observations from *XMM*. This model has as inputs the gas temperature, the cluster redshift, the cluster metallicity and a normalization, and provides the X-ray cluster flux. We adopt a metallicity $Z = 0.3\,Z_\odot$ (Sato et al. 2011) throughout. Using this model we generate fluxes for a range of temperatures which are interpolated for use in our chameleon gravity model.

The chameleon parameters β_2 and $\phi_{\infty,2}$ are the same across the two bins, as the modifications to gravity should be independent of the cluster's mass.

We performed an MCMC analysis using the EMCEE code (Foreman-Mackey et al. 2013), which implements a Metropolis–Hastings algorithm (MacKay 2003). We minimized the goodness of fit using a χ^2 statistic derived from joint fitting of both models (see Appendix A).

Our MCMC run was a parallelized implementation using 128 walkers with 10 000 time steps. We removed the first 2000 iterations as a 'burn in' phase.

4 RESULTS

In Fig. 2, we show our measured X-ray and weak lensing profiles for both X-ray temperature bins. Our X-ray surface brightness profiles have been measured out to $1.2 \times r_{200}$ with high signal to noise. Likewise for our two weak lensing profiles, we have recovered a shear signal out to $10 \times r_{200}$ with high signal to noise. Also shown in Fig. 2 are our best-fitting models for the each profile using the parameters outlined in Section 3.5 and minimizing χ^2 as described in equation (A1). We show the 2D contours for constraints on model parameters in Fig. D1.

In Fig. 3, we show the 2D constraints for β_2 and $\phi_{\infty,2}$. To generate our constraints, we have marginalized over the measured likelihoods of the nuisance parameters (those that are not β_2 and $\phi_{\infty,2}$). We are able to do so as we are insensitive to the overall amplitude of our profiles, only the profiles shape matters for our constraints. In Fig. 3, we also show the dashed (dash–dotted) line the 95 per cent (99 per cent) confidence limit excluded region from Terukina et al.
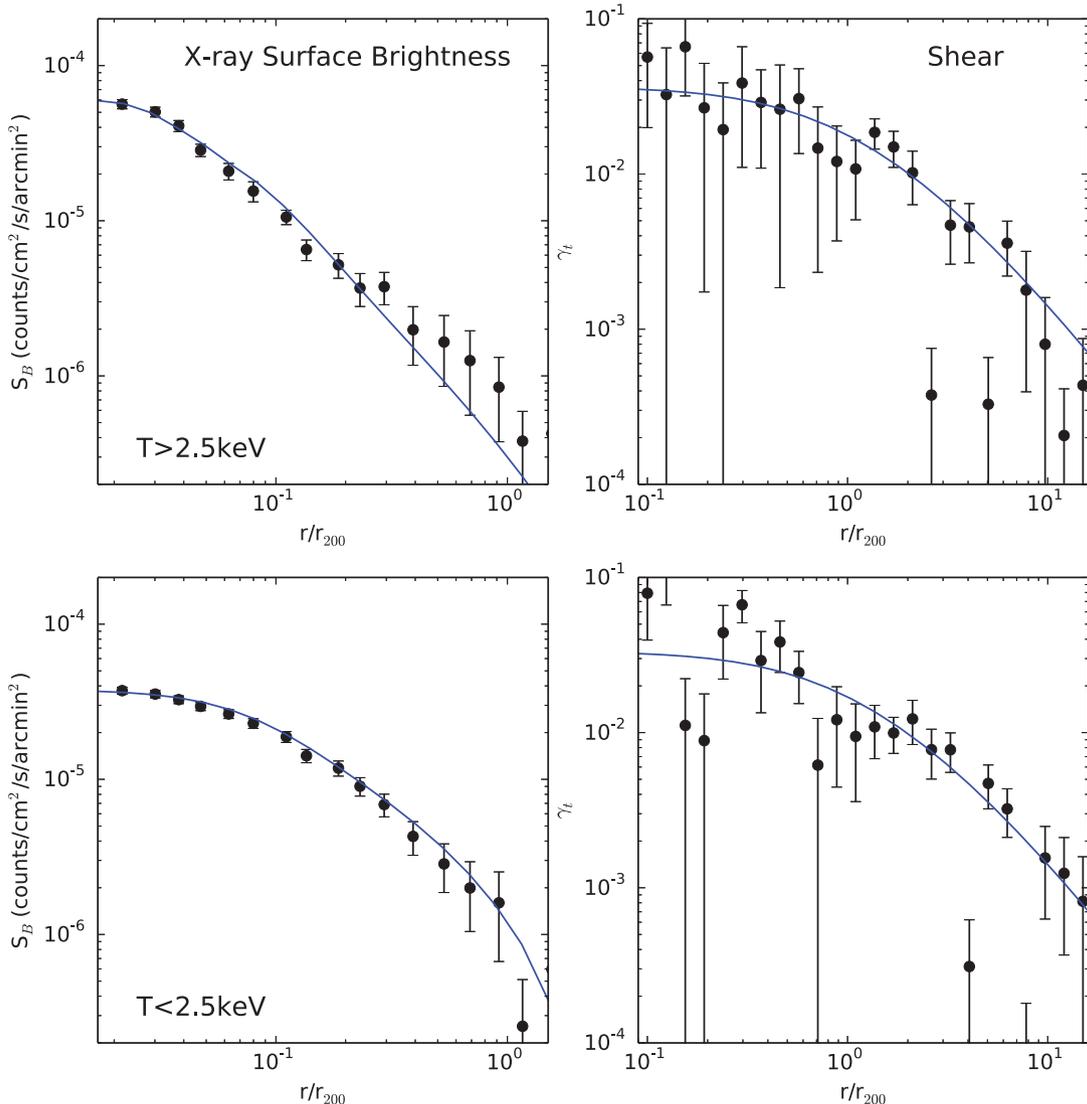
Figure 2. X-ray surface brightness profiles (left) and weak lensing (right) for the two bins of X-ray temperature: $T < 2.5$ keV (top) and $T > 2.5$ keV (bottom), against radial distance normalized by r_{200}, the radius at which the density is 200 times the critical density. We choose to show the modified gravity profiles with the highest likelihood parameters, $T_0^I = 12.6$ keV, $n_0^I = 2.0 \times 10^{-2}$ cm^{-3}, $b_1^I = -0.42$, $r_1^I = 0.06$ Mpc, $M_{200}^I = 12.2 \times 10^{14}$ M$_\odot$, $c^I = 3.5$, $T_0^{II} = 7.8$ keV, $n_0^{II} = 4.9 \times 10^{-2}$ cm^{-3}, $b_1^{II} = -0.89$, $r_1^{II} = 0.05$ Mpc, $M_{200}^{II} = 13.7 \times 10^{14}$ M$_\odot$, $c^{II} = 3.8$, $\beta = 2$, $\phi_\infty = 2.1 \times 10^{-4} M_{Pl}$.
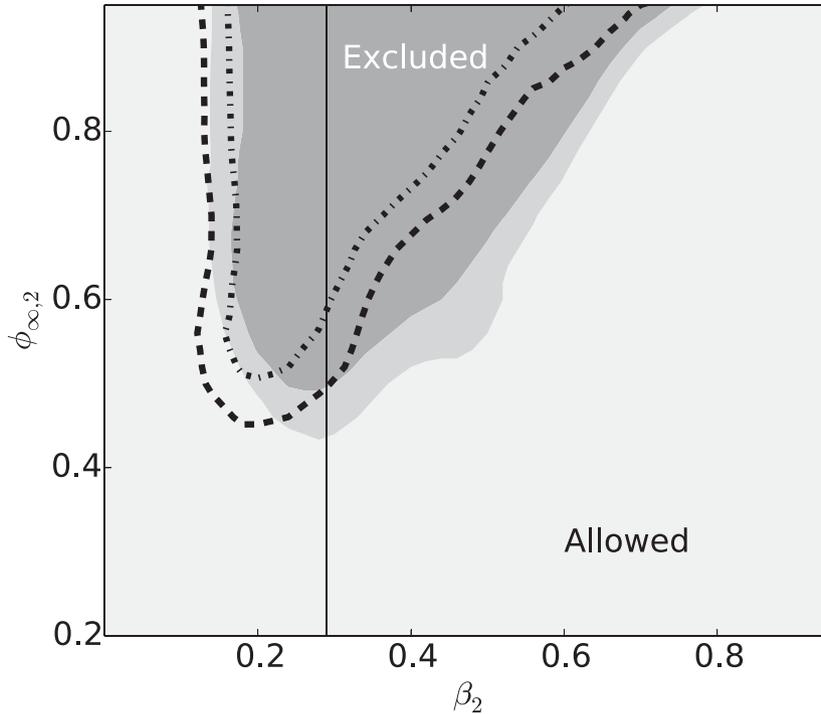
Figure 3. The 95 per cent (light grey region) and the 99 per cent confidence limit (mid grey region) constraints for the chameleon model parameters renormalized between [0,1], $\beta_2 = \beta/(1 + \beta)$ and $\phi_{\infty,2} = 1 - \exp(-\phi_\infty/10^{-4}M_{Pl})$ obtained from the MCMC analysis of our combination of weak lensing and X-ray surface brightness for our two cluster stacks. Above the dashed (dash–dotted) line is the 95 per cent (99 per cent) confidence limit excluded region from Terukina et al. (2014). The vertical line is at $\beta = \sqrt{1/6}$, showing our constraints for $f(R)$ gravity models.

(2014). The constraints are tighter from this work on larger values of β than in Terukina et al. (2014), whilst the constraints on smaller values of β are looser. As the profiles presented in this work extend further from the cluster than the Coma profile, we probe further outside the critical radius, r_c and are able to better constrain large values of β. However, as the errors on the X-ray profiles (and the lack of available SZ data) used in this work are larger than those measured in Terukina et al. (2014), we are less able to differentiate a chameleon profile from a GR one at lower values of β, leading to less constraining power.

The shape of the contours in Fig. 3 can be understood by considering the meaning of the parameters used in defining chameleon gravity. Recall that β dictates the strength of the fifth force and ϕ_∞ is the effectiveness of the screening mechanism. Therefore, at low values of β, the fifth force causes a deviation to the profile which is too small to be distinguished from GR given the observational errors. Likewise as GR gravity is recovered outside the critical radius r_{crit}, this sets an upper limit on β/ϕ_∞. As β increases, a lower value for ϕ_∞ is required to keep r_{crit} within the cluster, giving rise to the triangular shape of the excluded region.

4.1 Implications for $f(R)$ gravity

Our constraints have implications for $f(R)$ gravity models, which contain a chameleon mechanism for which $\beta = \sqrt{1/6}$ (Starobinsky 2007) (shown as the vertical line in Fig. 3).

From Fig. 3, we estimate an upper bound on $f(R)$ gravity of $\phi_\infty < 5.8 \times 10^{-5}M_{Pl}$ at 95 per cent confidence limit, and therefore using equation (3), $f_R(z = 0.33) < 4.7 \times 10^{-5}$ at 95 per cent confidence limit (where $z = 0.33$ is our cluster samples median red-

shift). The time-evolution of the background $f_R(z)$ for a Hu–Sawicki follows (Li et al. 2013),

$$f_R(z) = |f_{R0}|\frac{1}{n}[(1 + 3\Omega_\Lambda)/(\Omega_M(1 + z)^3 + 4\Omega_\Lambda)]^{n+1}, \quad (13)$$

where n is a free parameter of the model. At high redshifts, the background energy density is higher, therefore $f_R(z)$ is smaller and the screening is more efficient. So $f_R(z)$ decreases by 22 per cent from our median redshift ($z = 0.33$) to $z = 0$, when $n = 1$, and our constraint at $z = 0$ is $|f_{R0}| < 6 \times 10^{-5}$ at 95 per cent confidence limit. Considering a Hu–Sawicki model with $n = 3$, our constraint becomes $|f_{R0}| < 2 \times 10^{-4}$ at 95 per cent confidence limit. Our results are comparable to the results for the Coma cluster reported in Terukina et al. (2014) of $|f_{R0}| < 6 \times 10^{-5}$.

5 DISCUSSION

In this section, we discuss the influence of local overdensities upon our cluster sample. We also question the validity of the assumptions we have made while constraining chameleon gravity, primarily the assumption that our cluster stack is in hydrostatic equilibrium.

5.1 Influence of cluster environment

In addition to self-screening, a cluster may be screened by nearby clusters and therefore still show no evidence of modified gravity, even in its outskirts. To check whether this was expected for any of our clusters, we estimated the D parameter detailed in Zhao, Li & Koyama (2011), a parametrization of the separation between a given cluster and the nearest larger cluster, scaled by the given cluster's r_{200}. We describe clusters with $\log_{10}D > 1$ as 'isolated' and clusters with $\log_{10}D < 1$ as living in dense environments, and therefore
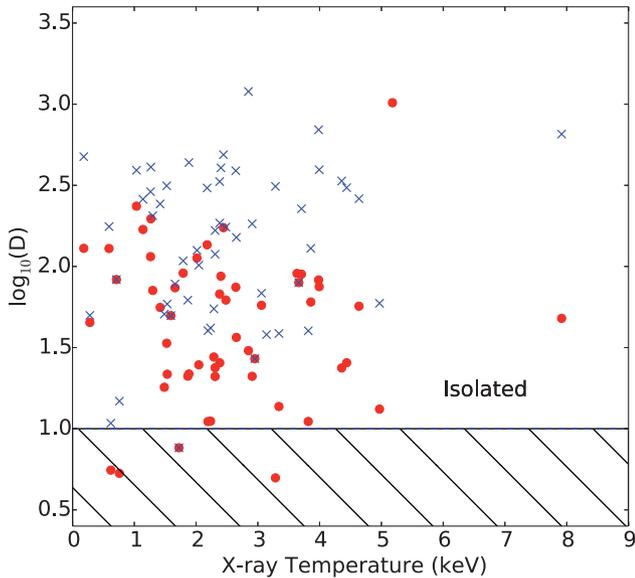
Figure 4. The minimum D parameter for each cluster against X-ray temperature, where $\log_{10}D$ is a measure of the distance between a cluster and the nearest overdensity in the top 30 per cent (10 per cent) of overdensity values, shown as a red circle (blue cross). The shaded region contains clusters with potential screening from neighbouring overdensities. The majority of the clusters are in an isolated region.

screened. As our X-ray clusters are an incomplete set of all clusters in our area, we looked at overdensities in the galaxy density field as a proxy for nearby clusters. We binned the galaxies in the CFHTLenS catalogue into 3D pixels of volume 1 Mpc^2 in area, and 0.01 in redshift. Fig. 4 shows X-ray temperature against $\log_{10}D$, where we have calculated $\log_{10}D$ values between each cluster and overdensity and selected the smallest $\log_{10}D$ as a measure of environment. It is seen that only 7 per cent (2 per cent) of our clusters are found to be near ($\log_{10}D < 1$) the most overdense 30 per cent (10 per cent) of the 3D pixels. We therefore conclude that our sample appears to be largely environmentally unscreened by nearby clusters, and therefore will apply our analysis to the full cluster sample. We note that it is possible that clusters outside the edge of the CFHTLenS observations could screen at most 6 per cent of our sample, which lie within $\log_{10}D = 1$ of the edge.

5.2 Assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium

Even in the absence of a fifth force, the interpretation of apparent differences in cluster mass profiles derived from X-ray or SZ observations and lensing measurements is complicated by both astrophysical processes in clusters, such as gas clumping in the cluster outskirts, and systematic errors in the measurements themselves. This has led to uncertainty in mass calibration being the dominant source of error on cosmological constraints derived from SZ cluster catalogues (e.g. Hasselfield et al. 2013; Reichardt et al. 2013; Planck Collaboration XX 2014). The absolute cluster mass scale is affected by uncertainty in the effects of feedback from active galactic nuclei, and non-thermal processes such as bulk motions, on the cluster gas (e.g. Nagai, Kravtsov & Vikhlinin 2007). Instrumental calibration uncertainties may also play a role (e.g. Israel et al. 2015; Schellenberger et al. 2015). Lensing measurements, which are affected by different systematics, are being used to quantify any bias in the absolute mass scale, but at present, samples are small, and

there is some disagreement (e.g. von der Linden et al. 2014; Hoekstra et al. 2015).

In this work, we have investigated one of these issues: the impact of non-thermal pressure on our conclusions about chameleon gravity (whilst maintaining the simplifying assumptions of spherical symmetry). We plan to investigate the other issues, using hydrodynamic simulations, in future publications. The thermal mass of a cluster is defined by the gas pressure, density and temperature, which we infer from the X-ray surface brightness. We follow the parametric fits described in Terukina et al. (2014) to reconstruct the stacked cluster temperature profile and electron number densities from the profile parameters fit for by our MCMC. We infer from X-ray observations,

$$M_{\text{thermal}} = \frac{-kT_{\text{gas}}r}{\mu m_{\text{p}}G}\left(\frac{d\ln n_{\text{e}}}{d\ln r} + \frac{d\ln T_{\text{gas}}}{d\ln r}\right), \quad (14)$$

where k is the Boltzmann constant, m_{p} is the proton mass. According to the hydrodynamical simulations in Shaw et al. (2010), the non-thermal pressure can be modelled as a function of the total pressure, such that $P_{\text{non-thermal}}(r) = g(r)P_{\text{total}}(r)$, where

$$g(r) = \alpha_{\text{nt}}(1+z)^{\beta_{\text{nt}}}\left(\frac{r}{r_{500}}\right)^{n_{\text{nt}}}\left(\frac{M_{200}}{3\times10^{14}\,\text{M}_{\odot}}\right)^{n_{\text{M}}}, \quad (15)$$

with α_{nt}, β_{nt}, n_{nt} and n_{M} are constants determined from 16 simulated clusters, with a mass range between 0.35 and $9.02\times10^{14}\,\text{M}_{\odot}$ at $z=0$ (Lau, Kravtsov & Nagai 2009). We adopt their best-fitting values of β_{nt}, n_{nt}, $n_{\text{M}} = 0.5, 0.8, 0.2$, respectively. In order to test the robustness of our assumptions, we select $\alpha = 0.3$, which was the most extreme value found in the 16 clusters in their analysis. The extra mass component which would be inferred from X-rays due to such non-thermal pressure would be

$$M_{\text{non-thermal}} = \frac{-r^2}{G\rho_{\text{gas}}}\frac{d}{dr}\left(\frac{g(r)}{1-g(r)}n_{\text{gas}}kT_{\text{gas}}\right), \quad (16)$$

where r is the radial distance, $g(r)$ is defined in equation (15) and ρ_{gas}, n_{gas} and T_{gas} are the gas density, number density and temperature, respectively.

In Fig. 5, we show our mass profiles for 0.3 Mpc $<r_{\perp}<2$ Mpc for the lensing mass and X-ray mass reconstruction, including the effects of non-thermal pressure. The solid lines are the hydrostatic mass recovered from the X-ray measurements using equation (14), while the dashed lines are the hydrostatic mass plus a non-thermal component from equation (16). The shaded area is the 68 per cent confidence limit allowed region from the weak lensing measurements, fitted with an NFW profile. The vertical dotted line is the upper bound of our X-ray data; to the right of this line we have extrapolated to illustrate the possible divergence of the mass estimates with and without significant non-thermal pressure.

At all scales in Fig. 5 the thermal pressure profile (solid line) is consistent with the shaded region, showing that the mass profiles estimated by the X-rays and lensing mass are consistent. This suggests that hydrostatic equilibrium is an acceptable approximation for our stacked profiles, given the error in our lensing measurements.

We also see in Fig. 5 that the thermal pressure profile with a non-thermal component (dashed line) enhances the hydrodynamical mass by 20 per cent (10 per cent) in the $T<2.5$ keV ($T>2.5$ keV) cluster bin, but is still seen to be consistent with our lensing measurements. This shows that the non-thermal pressure expected from simulations falls within our present observed errors', if present it acts in the opposite sense to chameleon gravity, reducing the detectable signal.
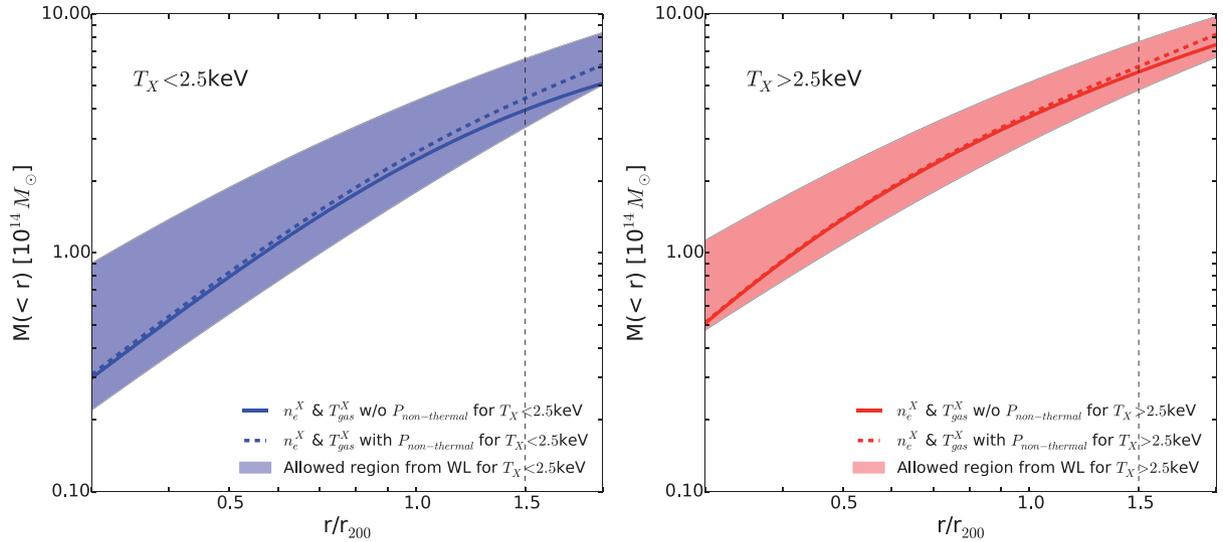
Figure 5. Mass profile from the $T < 2.5$ keV ($T > 2.5$ keV) cluster bin in blue (red). The shaded area is the 1σ allowed region from the weak lensing measurement and the solid line is the thermal mass reconstructed from the X-rays. The dashed line shows the thermal mass with an additional non-thermal component as discussed in the text. The vertical line is the upper extent of our X-ray data; to its right we have extrapolated the X-ray data.

With future X-ray measurements we will be able to fit out to a larger distance, allowing us to better constrain the effect of non-thermal pressure, which would be most prominent at large radii. We also note that our weak lensing profiles have lower signal to noise than the X-ray profiles; however, with future lensing surveys we will be able to more accurately constrain these profiles also allowing us to better characterize not only chameleon gravity but non-thermal pressure too.

6 CONCLUSIONS

We have investigated the constraining power of stacked galaxy cluster profiles for testing chameleon gravity. We have examined 58 X-ray-selected galaxy clusters, which have both good quality weak lensing data from CFHTLenS and X-ray data from XCS. After binning our clusters by X-ray temperature, we have generated weak lensing profiles and X-ray surface brightness profiles. Chameleon gravity predicts an additional pressure existing within clusters, which causes their gas component to become more compressed than GR gravity predicts. We have therefore investigated this phenomena by comparing the X-ray profile with the weak lensing profile, which is unaffected by the fifth force. Using a multiparameter MCMC analysis we have obtained constraints on the common chameleon parameters β and ϕ_∞, which in turn lead to constraints for $|f_{R0}|$, a parameter charactering $f(R)$ theories.

We find our results are competitive with other cosmological constraints on chameleon models. In particular, our constraints are an order of magnitude stronger than those from the CMB (Raveri et al. 2014). They are comparable to Cataneo et al. (2014) which provides $|f_{R0}| < 2.6 \times 10^{-5}$ for $n = 1$, compared with our measurement of $|f_{R0}| < 6 \times 10^{-5}$, and $|f_{R0}| < 3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ for $n = 3$ compared with our measurement of $|f_{R0}| < 2 \times 10^{-4}$, all at the 95 per cent CL. A comparison of these constraints is shown in Table 1.

We examined the assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium by comparing the masses inferred from the X-ray observations with weak lensing and found them to be consistent. Deviations from hydrostatic equilibrium would cause a disparity between the weak lensing and X-rays with the opposite sign to that from the chameleon effect.

Table 1. Comparison of the constraints on $\log_{10}|f_{R0}|$.

Scale	Scale	$\log_{10}|f_{R0}|$
Solar system (Hu & Sawicki 2007)	pc	-6
Dwarf galaxies (Jain et al. 2013)	kpc	-6.3
Coma cluster (Terukina et al. 2014)	Mpc	-4.2
Cluster abundance (Cataneo et al. 2014)	Mpc	$-4.6 \ (n = 1)$
		$-3.5 \ (n = 3)$
Cluster stack (This work)	Mpc	$-4.2 \ (n = 1)$
		$-3.7 \ (n = 3)$
CMB (Raveri et al. 2014)	Gpc	-3.0

We modelled a non-thermal pressure X-ray component, and given current observational errors found this to be a subdominant effect on our constraints.

As we are interested in the shape of the respective profiles, the absolute mass of the stacked cluster, measured through both weak lensing and X-rays, is a nuisance parameter which we have marginalized over. We therefore are not sensitive to the relative biases between these two techniques, such as reported in von der Linden et al. (2014) and Hoekstra et al. (2015).

For the next generation of constraints via this method, we will need detailed modified-gravity hydrodynamic simulations. These will allow us to check a range of assumptions used in this analysis such as hydrostaticity, non-thermal pressure, gas clumping in the cluster outskirts, spherical symmetry and the reliability of the NFW profile.

We find our constraint on $|f_{R0}|$ to be consistent with the literature, and competitive at these cosmic scales and redshifts. We have therefore demonstrated that it is possible to constrain chameleon gravity using stacked galaxy clusters; with the advent of wide-area lensing surveys promising a much larger area, such as the Dark Energy Survey (DES; The Dark Energy Survey Collaboration 2005), the KIlo

Degree Survey (KIDS; de Jong et al. 2013), *Euclid* (Laureijs et al. 2011) and the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST; LSST Dark Energy Science Collaboration 2012), it will become possible to use stacks containing many more clusters to beat down systematics and obtain stronger constraints.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this paper:

Table B1. The extended X-ray sources in CFHTLenS footprint. (http://mnras.oxfordjournals.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1093/mnras/stv1366/-/DC1).

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APPENDIX A: GOODNESS OF FIT

To characterize the goodness of fit of our profiles, we adopt the following χ^2 statistic

$$\chi^2(T_0^I, n_0^I, b_1^I, r_1^I, M_{200}^I, c^I, T_0^{II}, n_0^{II}, b_1^{II}, r_1^{II}, M_{200}^{II},$$
$$c^{II}, \beta_2, \phi_{\infty,2}) = \chi_{WL}^{I\ 2} + \chi_{WL}^{II\ 2} + \chi_{SB}^{I\ 2} + \chi_{SB}^{II\ 2}, \qquad (A1)$$

where we adopt the notation I, II to indicate the temperature bins $T < 2.5$, $T > 2.5$, respectively, and

$$\chi_{WL}^{I\ 2} = \sum_i \frac{(\gamma(r_{\perp,i}^I) - \gamma_i^{obs,I})^2}{(\sigma \gamma_i^{obs,I})^2}, \qquad (A2)$$

$$\chi_{WL}^{II\ 2} = \sum_i \frac{(\gamma(r_{\perp,i}^{II}) - \gamma_i^{obs,II})^2}{(\sigma \gamma_i^{obs,II})^2}, \qquad (A3)$$

$$\chi_{SB}^{I\ 2} = \sum_{i,j} (S_B(r_{\perp,i}^I) - S_{B,i}^{obs,I}) C_{i,j}^{-1} (S_B(r_{\perp,j}^I) - S_{B,j}^{obs,I}), \qquad (A4)$$

$$\chi_{SB}^{II\ 2} = \sum_{i,j} (S_B(r_{\perp,i}^{II}) - S_{B,i}^{obs,II}) C_{i,j}^{-1} (S_B(r_{\perp,j}^{II}) - S_{B,j}^{obs,II}). \qquad (A5)$$

In the weak lensing case, we approximate the covariance matrix as diagonal; we find strong leading diagonals for the measured correlation matrices. For the surface brightness fits, we minimize over the full covariance matrix due to the covariances that exist between bins; here C is the error covariance matrix. Then $\gamma(r_{\perp,i})$ is the value of the lensing model at a distance $r_\perp$ from the clusters' centre; likewise $S_B(r_{\perp,i})$ is the value of the surface brightness model at a distance $r_\perp$ from the clusters centre. γ_i^{obs}, $S_{B,i}^{obs}$ are the observed shear profile and surface brightness profile, respectively, while $\sigma \gamma_i^{obs}$ is the observed error on the shear profile.

APPENDIX B: SOURCE LIST

Table B1. Sample of the extended X-ray sources in CFHTLenS footprint. The XCS name and position are listed for all clusters. Redshifts are provided where available. The clusters forming the sample used throughout this work have a flag of 0 in the $T < 2.5$ keV bin and a flag of 1 in the $T > 2.5$ keV bin. A flag of 2 denotes the source was discounted for having no measured redshift. A flag of 3 denotes the source was discounted for having no measured X-ray temperature. The full version of this table is provided via the online edition of the article. An excerpt is provided to illustrate form and content.

XCS name	z	Flag
XMMXCS J020045.8−064229.2	0.36	0
XMMXCS J020119.0−064954.6	0.33	0
XMMXCS J020232.1−073343.8	0.55	1
XMMXCS J020334.3−055049.5		2
XMMXCS J020359.1−055031.6		3
XMMXCS J020405.2−050142.5		2
XMMXCS J020428.5−070221.6		2
XMMXCS J020432.7−064449.4		2
XMMXCS J020514.7−045640.0	0.29	0
XMMXCS J020611.4−061129.2	0.88	1

APPENDIX C: CLUSTER IMAGES
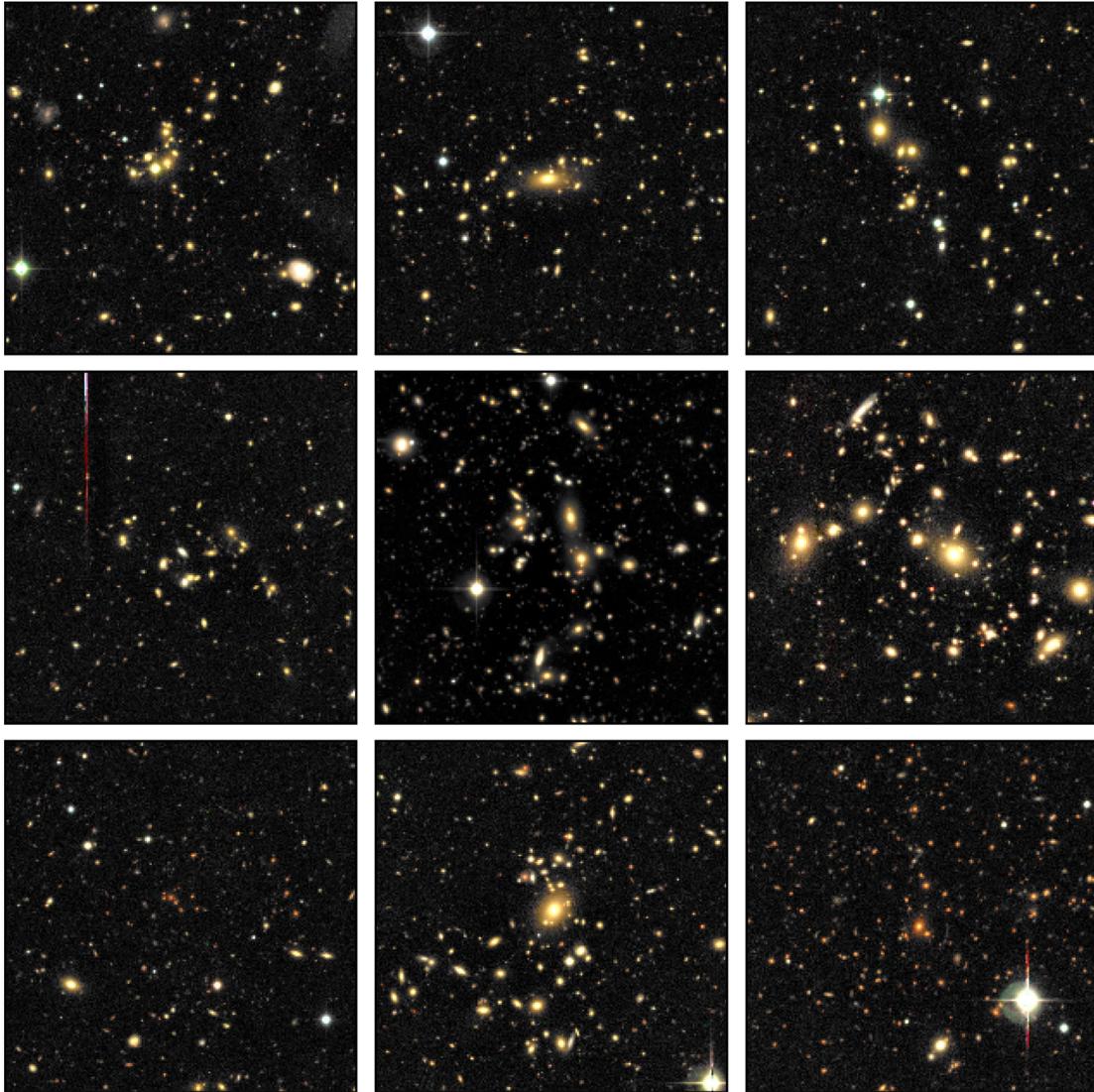
Figure C1. A selection of optically confirmed clusters as imaged by CFHTLenS. False colour composite images are 3 arcmin × 3 arcmin. From left to right and top to bottom, the compilation shows the clusters: XMMXCS J020119.0−064954.6 at $z = 0.33$; XMMXCS J021226.8−053734.6 at $z = 0.31$; XMMXCS J021527.9−053319.2 at $z = 0.28$; XMMXCS J021843.7−053257.7 at $z = 0.40$; XMMXCS J022433.8−041433.7 at $z = 0.39$; and XMMXCS J023142.2−045253.1 at $z = 0.21$. These clusters are included in our sample, flagged either with a 0 or 1 in Table B1. The remaining clusters in our compilation have no measured redshift or temperature and are flagged with a 2 or 3 in Table B1. Continuing onwards these clusters are: XMMXCSJ021517.1−0.60432.8, XMMXCSJ022359.2−083543.4 and XMMXCSJ141446.9+544709.1.

APPENDIX D: 2D CONTOURS
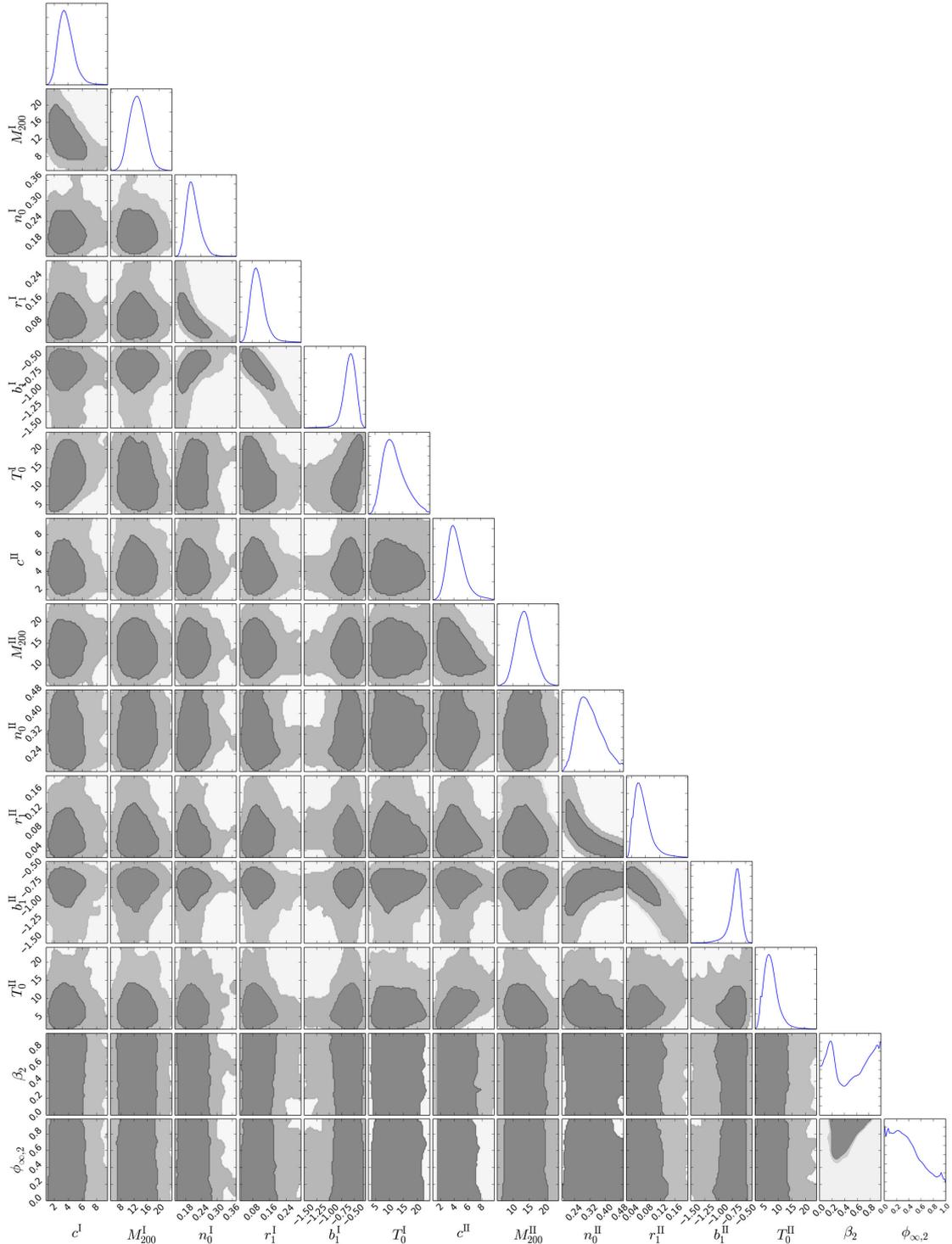
Figure D1. The 95 per cent (dark grey region) and the 99 per cent CL (mid-grey region) 2D marginalized contours for the 14 model parameters T_0^{I} (keV), n_0^{I} ($10^{-2}\mathrm{cm}^{-3}$), b_1^{I}, r_1^{I} (Mpc), M_{200}^{I} ($10^{14}\,\mathrm{M}_\odot$), c^{I}, T_0^{II} (keV), n_0^{II} ($10^{-2}\mathrm{cm}^{-3}$), b_1^{II}, r_1^{II} (Mpc), M_{200}^{II} ($10^{14}\,\mathrm{M}_\odot$), c^{II}, β_2, $\phi_{\infty,2}$ used in our MCMC analysis. The rightmost plots show the 1D likelihood distributions.

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