

Perturbative methods in modified gravity theories

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740. WE-Heraeus-Seminar, 5. 2. 2021

- 1 Perturbation theory - from geometry to gravity
- 2 Perturbations of metric-affine and teleparallel geometries
- 3 Perturbations in teleparallel gravity theories
 - Post-Newtonian perturbations and PPN formalism
 - Gravitational waves
 - Cosmological perturbations
- 4 Computational tools
- 5 Conclusion

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- Partial differential equation (PDE) perspective:
 - Independent variables x^μ and dependent variables $y^A(x)$.
 - Consider partial derivatives $y_\mu^A = \partial_\mu y^A$, $y_{\mu\nu}^A = \partial_\mu \partial_\nu y^A$, $y_{\mu\nu\rho}^A = \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \partial_\rho y^A \dots$
 - General form of the field equations given by PDE system:

$$\mathcal{E}_A(x^\mu, y^A, y_\mu^A, y_{\mu\nu}^A, \dots) = 0. \quad (1)$$

- Physical fields given as solutions $(x^\mu) \mapsto y^A(x)$ of PDE system.

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- Differential geometry perspective:

- Independent variables x^μ are (local) coordinates on a base manifold X .
- Dependent variables y^A are (local) fiber coordinates on a fiber bundle $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$.
- Variables $x^\mu, y^A, y_\mu^A, y_{\mu\nu}^A, \dots$ are coordinates on a jet bundle $J^r(\pi)$.
- Field equations are components of a differential form on $J^r(\pi)$:

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_A dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n \wedge dy^A. \quad (2)$$

- Physical geometries given as sections $\sigma : X \rightarrow Y$ whose jet prolongation make \mathcal{E} vanish.

Field equations in gravity theory

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⇒ Useful for practical calculations, finding solutions etc.

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⇒ Useful for understanding the structure behind the equations.

Geometries used in the description of gravity

base manifold	X	total space	Y	field	σ
spacetime	M	metric bundle	$\text{LorMet}(M) \subset T_2^0 M$	metric	g
		frame bundle	$\text{GL}(M)$	tetrad	θ
		connection bundle	$\text{Aff}(M)$	connection	Γ
		trivial bundle	$M \times Z$	scalar fields	ϕ^A
		tensor bundle	$T_s^r M$	tensor field	A
tangent bundle	TM	trivial line bundle	$TM \times \mathbb{R}$	Lagrangian	L
cotangent bundle	T^*M	trivial line bundle	$T^*M \times \mathbb{R}$	Hamiltonian	H
projective bundle	PTM^+	associated bundle	$\overset{\circ}{TM} \times_{PTM^+} \mathbb{R}_+^*$	Finsler function	F

Perturbations of geometry and field equations

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⚡ Difficulties of applying a Taylor expansion to fields σ :

- Values might not form a linear space (e.g., frame bundle) - no well-defined sum of terms.
- Perturbative expansion defined only locally around background solution.
- Expansion of coordinate expressions $x \mapsto y^A(x, \epsilon)$ depends on coordinate choice.

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- ⇒ Proper geometric treatment of perturbation theory:
 - Linear change of solution σ_ϵ given by vertical vector field on Y .
 - Higher order expansion uses theory of jet bundles.
 - ✓ Well-defined expressions for perturbations at arbitrary perturbation order.
 - ⇒ Perturbations of coordinate expressions derived from well-defined procedure.

- Approximation of exact field equations around a given solution.
 - Example: linearized gravitational waves in vacuum general relativity.
 - Assume vacuum Einstein equations $G_{\mu\nu} = 0$: no parameter dependence.
 - Consider metric $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \epsilon h_{\mu\nu}$ as perturbation of Minkowski metric.
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- Approximation of a physical system around a simpler system.
 - Example: weak-field approximations of general relativity.
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 - ⇒ Background given by vacuum Einstein equations.
- Approximation of a modified gravity theory around a well-known theory.
 - Example: modification of Einstein-Hilbert action with higher-order terms:

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int_M d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R + \alpha R^2 + \beta R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} + \dots) . \quad (3)$$

- ⇒ Background $\alpha = \beta = 0$ given by Einstein equations.
 - Metric as perturbation $g_{\mu\nu} = \overset{0}{g}_{\mu\nu} + \alpha h_{\mu\nu} + \beta j_{\mu\nu} + \dots$

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- Common examples in gravity theory:
 - Maximal symmetry (in particular Poincaré symmetry) of Riemannian geometry.
 - Cosmological symmetry (spatial homogeneity and either full or partial isotropy).
 - Spherical or axial symmetry.

Perturbations around symmetric backgrounds

- Background solution $\bar{\sigma}$ conventionally assumed invariant under group action.
- Common examples in gravity theory:
 - Maximal symmetry (in particular Poincaré symmetry) of Riemannian geometry.
 - Propagation of gravitational waves: Newman-Penrose formalism, polarization.
 - Weak-field approximation: Newtonian, post-Newtonian.
 - Cosmological symmetry (spatial homogeneity and either full or partial isotropy).
 - Early universe: inflation, cosmic microwave background.
 - Density fluctuations and growth of structure.
 - Propagation of gravitational waves from distant sources, primordial waves.
 - Spherical or axial symmetry.
 - Quasinormal modes of gravitational waves from compact objects.
 - Extreme mass ratio inspirals: gravitational waves from small orbiting mass.
- Wide applicability to physical systems.

Gauge transformations

- Concept of gauge transformations:
 - Family of maps $\Phi_\epsilon : Y \rightarrow Y$ on the values of physical fields.
 - Maps must be fiber preserving: $\pi \circ \Phi_\epsilon = \varphi_\epsilon \circ \pi$ for some $\varphi_\epsilon : X \rightarrow X$.
 - ⇒ Transformation of fields $\sigma'_\epsilon = \Phi_\epsilon^{-1} \circ \sigma_\epsilon \circ \varphi_\epsilon$.
 - Must preserve background solution: $\sigma'_0 = \sigma_0$.
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- ⇒ Transformation of perturbative expansion of σ_ϵ :

- Consider $\sigma = \bar{\sigma} + \delta\sigma$ and $\sigma' = \bar{\sigma} + \delta\sigma'$ as perturbation around **same background $\bar{\sigma}$** .
- Relation between $\delta\sigma$ and $\delta\sigma'$ given by vector field Ξ on Y generating Φ .
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- Example: diffeomorphism invariance of metric tensor:
 - Transformation given by pullback of covariant tensor field:

$$g'_{\mu\nu}(x) = \frac{\partial x'^\alpha}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x'^\beta}{\partial x^\nu} g_{\alpha\beta}(x'(x)). \quad (4)$$

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- Transformation $\varphi : X \rightarrow X$ of base manifold given by coordinate change $x \mapsto x'(x)$.
- Transformation $\Phi : Y \rightarrow Y$ of total space given by pullback.
- Infinitesimal transformation given by Lie derivative $\delta g_{\mu\nu} - \delta g'_{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{L}_\xi \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}$ of background.

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- Fundamental fields in the Palatini / metric-affine formulation:
 - Metric tensor $g_{\mu\nu}$.
 - Flat affine connection $\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = 0$: vanishing curvature

$$R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \Gamma^\rho{}_{\sigma\nu} - \partial_\nu \Gamma^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu} + \Gamma^\rho{}_{\lambda\mu} \Gamma^\lambda{}_{\sigma\nu} - \Gamma^\rho{}_{\lambda\nu} \Gamma^\lambda{}_{\sigma\mu} = 0. \quad (5)$$

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- The flavors of teleparallel geometries: vanishing curvature

- Metric teleparallel geometry: vanishing nonmetricity

$$Q_{\rho\mu\nu} = \nabla_\rho g_{\mu\nu} = 0. \quad (6)$$

- Symmetric teleparallel gravity: vanishing torsion

$$T^\rho{}_{\mu\nu} = \Gamma^\rho{}_{\nu\mu} - \Gamma^\rho{}_{\mu\nu} = 0. \quad (7)$$

- General teleparallel gravity: allow both torsion $T^\rho{}_{\mu\nu}$ and nonmetricity $Q_{\rho\mu\nu}$.

- Metric teleparallelism conventionally formulated using:
 - Tetrad / coframe: $\theta^A = \theta^A{}_\mu dx^\mu$ with inverse $e_A = e_A{}^\mu \partial_\mu$.
 - Spin connection: $\omega^A{}_B = \omega^A{}_{B\mu} dx^\mu$.

Metric teleparallel geometry: tetrad and spin connection

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- Induced metric-affine geometry:

- Metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{AB} \theta^A{}_{\mu} \theta^B{}_{\nu}. \quad (8)$$

- Affine connection:

$$\Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = e_A{}^{\mu} (\partial_{\rho} \theta^A{}_{\nu} + \omega^A{}_{B\rho} \theta^B{}_{\nu}). \quad (9)$$

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- Conditions on the spin connection:

- Flatness $R = 0$:

$$\partial_{\mu} \omega^A{}_{B\nu} - \partial_{\nu} \omega^A{}_{B\mu} + \omega^A{}_{C\mu} \omega^C{}_{B\nu} - \omega^A{}_{C\nu} \omega^C{}_{B\mu} = 0. \quad (10)$$

- Metric compatibility $Q = 0$:

$$\eta_{AC} \omega^C{}_{B\mu} + \eta_{BC} \omega^C{}_{A\mu} = 0. \quad (11)$$

- Local Lorentz transformation of the tetrad only:

$$\theta^A{}_{\mu} \mapsto \theta'^A{}_{\mu} = \Lambda^A{}_B \theta^B{}_{\mu}. \quad (12)$$

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 - Equivalence defined with respect to local Lorentz transformations.
- **Teleparallel geometry admits Weitzenböck gauge: $\omega^A{}_{B\mu} \equiv 0$.**

Linear perturbations of affine connections

- General affine connection perturbation: $\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\Gamma}^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} + \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho}$.

⇒ Curvature perturbation:

$$\delta R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} = \bar{\nabla}_\mu \delta\Gamma^\rho{}_{\sigma\nu} - \bar{\nabla}_\nu \delta\Gamma^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu} + \bar{T}^\omega{}_{\mu\nu} \delta\Gamma^\rho{}_{\sigma\omega}. \quad (14)$$

⇒ Torsion perturbation:

$$\delta T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\rho\nu} - \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho}. \quad (15)$$

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- Restriction to particular geometries:

- Vanishing torsion $T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \equiv 0$:

$$0 = \delta T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \Leftrightarrow \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\rho\nu}. \quad (16)$$

- Vanishing curvature $R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \equiv 0$:

$$0 = \delta R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \Leftrightarrow \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\nabla}_\rho \tau^\mu{}_\nu. \quad (17)$$

- Vanishing torsion $T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \equiv 0$ and curvature $R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \equiv 0$:

$$0 = \delta T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \wedge 0 = \delta R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \Leftrightarrow \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\nabla}_\nu \bar{\nabla}_\rho \xi^\mu. \quad (18)$$

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- Restriction to particular geometries:

- Vanishing torsion $T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \equiv 0$: **40 components**

$$0 = \delta T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \Leftrightarrow \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\rho\nu}. \quad (16)$$

- Vanishing curvature $R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \equiv 0$: **16 components**

$$0 = \delta R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \Leftrightarrow \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\nabla}_\rho \tau^\mu{}_\nu. \quad (17)$$

- Vanishing torsion $T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \equiv 0$ and curvature $R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \equiv 0$: **4 components**

$$0 = \delta T^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} \wedge 0 = \delta R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} \Leftrightarrow \delta\Gamma^\mu{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\nabla}_\nu \bar{\nabla}_\rho \xi^\mu. \quad (18)$$

- General metric perturbation: $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$.

Linear perturbations of metric-affine geometry

- General metric perturbation: $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$.

⇒ Nonmetricity perturbation:

$$\delta Q_{\rho\mu\nu} = \bar{\nabla}_{\rho} \delta g_{\mu\nu} - \bar{g}_{\sigma\nu} \delta \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\mu\rho} - \bar{g}_{\mu\sigma} \delta \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\nu\rho}. \quad (19)$$

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- Riemann-Cartan geometry $Q_{\rho\mu\nu} \equiv 0$:

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- Riemannian geometry $Q_{\rho\mu\nu} \equiv 0$ and $T^\mu_{\nu\rho} \equiv 0$:

$$0 = \delta T^\mu_{\nu\rho} \wedge 0 = \delta Q_{\rho\mu\nu} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \delta \Gamma^\rho_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}^{\rho\sigma} (\bar{\nabla}_\mu \delta g_{\sigma\nu} + \bar{\nabla}_\nu \delta g_{\mu\sigma} - \bar{\nabla}_\sigma \delta g_{\mu\nu}). \quad (21)$$

- Metric teleparallel geometry $Q_{\rho\mu\nu} \equiv 0$ and $R^\rho_{\sigma\mu\nu} \equiv 0$:

$$0 = \delta R^\rho_{\sigma\mu\nu} \wedge 0 = \delta Q_{\rho\mu\nu} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} = \tau_{\mu\nu} + \tau_{\nu\mu}. \quad (22)$$

Linear perturbations of metric-affine geometry

- General metric perturbation: $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$. **10 additional components**
- ⇒ Nonmetricity perturbation:

$$\delta Q_{\rho\mu\nu} = \bar{\nabla}_{\rho} \delta g_{\mu\nu} - \bar{g}_{\sigma\nu} \delta \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\mu\rho} - \bar{g}_{\mu\sigma} \delta \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\nu\rho}. \quad (19)$$

- Restriction to particular geometries:

- Riemann-Cartan geometry $Q_{\rho\mu\nu} \equiv 0$: **10 + 24 = 34 components**

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- Spin connection perturbation $\omega^A{}_{B\mu} = \bar{\omega}^A{}_{B\mu} + \delta\omega^A{}_{B\mu}$:
 - Vanishing curvature $\delta R^A{}_{B\mu\nu} = 0$ requires $\delta\omega^A{}_{B\mu} = \partial_\mu \lambda^A{}_B$.
 - Vanishing nonmetricity requires $\lambda_{AB} + \lambda_{BA} = 0$.
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Metric teleparallel perturbations and gauge transformations

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- Gauge transformation induced by coordinate transformation $x'^\mu = x^\mu + X^\mu(x)$:
 - Tetrad transforms as one-form:

$$\delta\theta^A{}_\mu - \delta\theta'^A{}_\mu = (\mathcal{L}_X \bar{\theta})^A{}_\mu = X^\nu \partial_\nu \bar{\theta}^A{}_\mu + \partial_\mu X^\nu \bar{\theta}^A{}_\nu. \quad (24)$$

⇒ Transformation of geometry perturbation:

$$\tau_{\mu\nu} - \tau'_{\mu\nu} = \bar{\nabla}_\nu X_\mu - \bar{T}_{\mu\nu}{}^\rho X_\rho. \quad (25)$$

Symmetric teleparallel perturbations and gauge transformations

- Independent perturbations of metric and connection:

- General metric perturbation:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}. \quad (26)$$

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$$\Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + \delta\Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \bar{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + \bar{\nabla}_{\nu}\bar{\nabla}_{\rho}\xi^{\mu}. \quad (27)$$

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- ⇒ Transformation of generator ξ^μ of connection perturbation:

$$\xi^\mu - \xi'^\mu = X^\mu. \quad (29)$$

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- 2 Perturbations of metric-affine and teleparallel geometries
- 3 Perturbations in teleparallel gravity theories**
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PPN for metric teleparallel gravity

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- Relevant and non-vanishing perturbation components:

$${}^2 g_{00}, \quad {}^2 g_{ij}, \quad {}^3 g_{i0}, \quad {}^4 g_{00}, \quad {}^4 g_{ij}, \quad {}^2 \hat{a}_{ij}, \quad {}^3 \hat{a}_{i0}, \quad {}^4 \hat{a}_{ij}. \quad (33)$$

Post-Newtonian limit of teleparallel Horndeski (BDLS) gravity

- Action depends on functions \mathcal{F} and Horndeski's $\mathcal{G}_2, \dots, \mathcal{G}_5$: [Bahamonde, Dialektopoulos, Levi Said '19]

$$\mathcal{S}_g[\theta, \omega, \phi] = \mathcal{S}_{\text{Horndeski}}[\mathcal{g} = \eta(\theta, \theta), \phi] + \int_M \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_3, X, Y, \phi, \mathbb{J}) \theta \, \mathbf{d}^4x. \quad (34)$$

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- Free function \mathcal{F} depends on different scalar invariants:
 - Terms quadratic in the torsion tensor:

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$$X = -\frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu \phi \partial_\mu \phi, \quad Y = g^{\mu\nu} T^\rho{}_{\rho\mu} \phi_{,\nu}. \quad (36)$$

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$$\mathcal{F} = F + \sum_{k=1}^3 F_{,k} \mathcal{T}_k + F_{,X} X + F_{,Y} Y + F_{,\phi} \phi + \dots \quad (37)$$

- General formula for PPN parameters: [Bahamonde, Dialektopoulos, MH, Levi Said '20]
 - Formula for γ in terms of Taylor coefficients of $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}_2, \dots, \mathcal{G}_5$:

$$\gamma = 1 - \frac{(F_{,\gamma} - 2G_{4,\phi})^2 + 2(2F_{,1} + F_{,2} + F_{,3})(F_{,x} + G_{2,x} - 2G_{3,\phi})}{2(F_{,\gamma} - 2G_{4,\phi})^2 + 2(2F_{,1} + F_{,2} + 2F_{,3} + G_4)(F_{,x} + G_{2,x} - 2G_{3,\phi})}, \quad (38)$$

- Formula for β is rather lengthy.
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- ⇒ Perturbed connection given by infinitesimal coordinate transformation:

$$\Lambda^{\alpha}{}_{\beta} = \frac{\partial x'^{\alpha}}{\partial x^{\beta}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial x^{\rho}}{\partial x'^{\gamma}} \frac{\partial x'^{\gamma}}{\partial x^{\mu} \partial x^{\nu}} = (\Lambda^{-1})^{\rho}{}_{\gamma} \partial_{\nu} \Lambda^{\gamma}{}_{\mu}. \quad (40)$$

PPN for symmetric teleparallel gravity

- Background satisfies *coincident gauge* condition $\bar{\Gamma}^{\rho}{}_{\mu\nu} = 0$.

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⇒ Perturbative expansion of symmetric teleparallel connection:

$$\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} \xi^{\rho} + \frac{1}{2} (\xi^{\sigma} \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} \partial_{\sigma} \xi^{\rho} + 2 \partial_{(\mu} \xi^{\sigma} \partial_{\nu)} \partial_{\sigma} \xi^{\rho} - \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} \xi^{\sigma} \partial_{\sigma} \xi^{\rho}) + \dots \quad (42)$$

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- Expansion of generators ξ^{μ} in post-Newtonian velocity orders:

$$\xi^{\mu} = \xi^{\mu}_1 + \xi^{\mu}_2 + \xi^{\mu}_3 + \xi^{\mu}_4 + \mathcal{O}(5). \quad (43)$$

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- Only terms $\xi^{2_i}, \xi^0, \xi^{4_i}$ are relevant and non-vanishing.

- Action functional depends on free function \mathcal{F} :

$$S_g[g, \Gamma] = \int_M \mathcal{F}(Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5) \sqrt{-g} d^4x. \quad (44)$$

Post-Newtonian limit of $\mathcal{F}(Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5)$ theories

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$$Q_1 = Q^{\rho\mu\nu} Q_{\rho\mu\nu}, \quad Q_2 = Q^{\mu\nu\rho} Q_{\rho\mu\nu}, \quad Q_3 = Q^{\rho\mu}{}_{\mu} Q_{\rho\nu}{}^{\nu}, \quad Q_4 = Q^{\mu}{}_{\mu\rho} Q_{\nu}{}^{\nu\rho}, \quad Q_5 = Q^{\mu}{}_{\mu\rho} Q^{\rho\nu}{}_{\nu} \quad (45)$$

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- Taylor expansion up to linear order is sufficient:

$$\mathcal{F} = F_0 + \sum_{k=1}^5 F_k Q_k + \mathcal{O}(Q^2). \quad (46)$$

Post-Newtonian limit of $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Q}_1, \mathcal{Q}_2, \mathcal{Q}_3, \mathcal{Q}_4, \mathcal{Q}_5)$ theories

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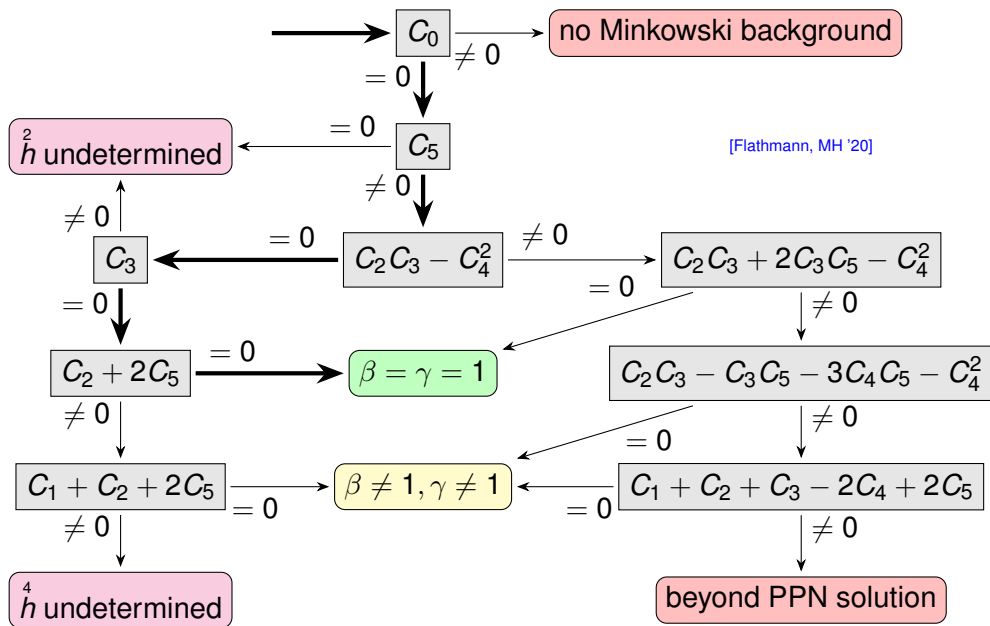
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- Change of parameters:

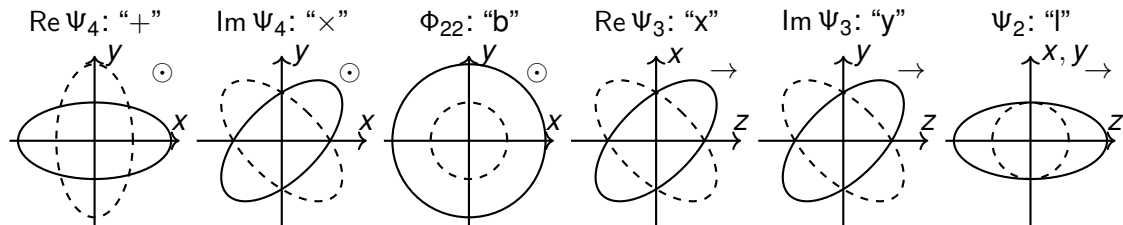
$$F_0 = C_0, \quad F_1 = 3C_5, \quad F_3 = C_2 - C_5, \quad F_5 = 2(-C_2 + C_4 + C_5), \\ F_2 = \frac{1}{2}(C_1 + C_2 + C_3 - 2C_4 - 4C_5), \quad F_4 = \frac{1}{2}(-C_1 + C_2 + C_3 - 2C_4 - 4C_5). \quad (47)$$

Post-Newtonian landscape of $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Q}_1, \mathcal{Q}_2, \mathcal{Q}_3, \mathcal{Q}_4, \mathcal{Q}_5)$ theories



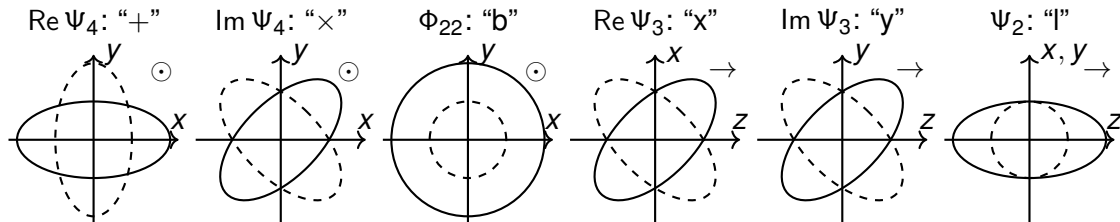
- 1 Perturbation theory - from geometry to gravity
- 2 Perturbations of metric-affine and teleparallel geometries
- 3 Perturbations in teleparallel gravity theories
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- 4 Computational tools
- 5 Conclusion

Gravitational wave polarization and E(2) formalism



Gravitational wave polarization and E(2) formalism

- II_6 : 6 polarizations, all modes are allowed.
- III_5 : 5 polarizations, $\Psi_2 = 0$, all other modes are allowed.
- N_3 : 3 polarizations, $\Psi_2 = \Psi_3 = 0$, tensor and breathing modes are allowed.
- N_2 : 2 polarizations, $\Psi_2 = \Psi_3 = \Phi_{22} = 0$, only tensor modes are allowed.
- O_1 : 1 polarization, $\Psi_2 = \Psi_3 = \Psi_4 = 0$, only breathing mode is allowed.
- O_0 : no gravitational waves.



- Action:

$$S_g[\theta] = \int_M \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_3) \theta d^4x. \quad (48)$$

Polarizations in metric teleparallel gravity

- Action:

$$S_g[\theta] = \int_M \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_3) \theta d^4x. \quad (48)$$

- Polarizations: [MH, Krššák, Pfeifer, Ualikhanova]

■ N₂ for

$$2F_{,1} + F_{,2} + F_{,3} = 0 \quad \wedge \quad F_{,3} \neq 0. \quad (49)$$

□ N₃ for

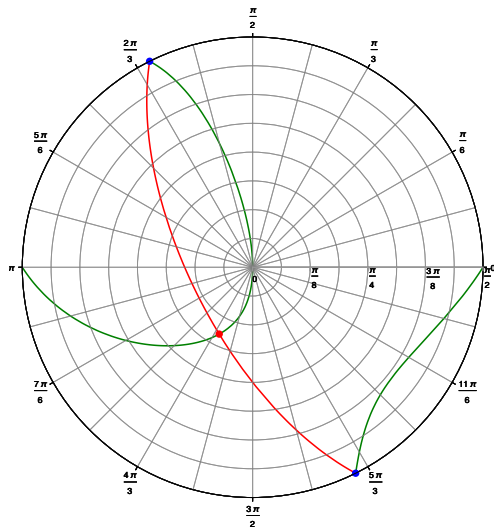
$$2F_{,1}(F_{,2} + F_{,3}) + F_{,2}^2 \neq 0 \quad \wedge \quad 2F_{,1} + F_{,2} + F_{,3} \neq 0. \quad (50)$$

■ III₅ for

$$2F_{,1}(F_{,2} + F_{,3}) + F_{,2}^2 = 0 \quad \wedge \quad 2F_{,1} + F_{,2} + F_{,3} \neq 0. \quad (51)$$

■ II₆ for

$$2F_{,1} + F_{,2} = F_{,3} = 0. \quad (52)$$



- Action:

$$S_g[g, \Gamma] = \int_M \mathcal{F}(Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5) \sqrt{-g} d^4x. \quad (53)$$

Polarizations in symmetric teleparallel gravity

- Action:

$$S_g[g, \Gamma] = \int_M \mathcal{F}(Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5) \sqrt{-g} d^4x. \quad (53)$$

- Polarizations: [MH, Levi Said, Pfeifer, Ualikhanova]

■ N_2 for

$$F_{,2} + F_{,4} + F_{,5} = 0 \quad \wedge \quad F_{,5} \neq 0. \quad (54)$$

□ N_3 for

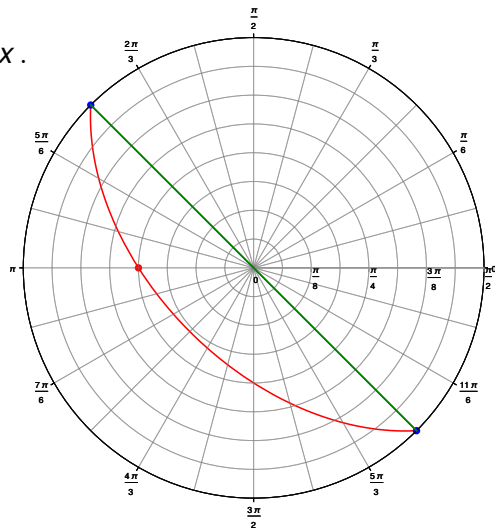
$$F_{,2} + F_{,4} \neq 0 \quad \wedge \quad F_{,2} + F_{,4} + F_{,5} \neq 0. \quad (55)$$

■ III_5 for

$$F_{,2} + F_{,4} = 0 \quad \wedge \quad F_{,5} \neq 0. \quad (56)$$

■ II_6 for

$$F_{,2} + F_{,4} = F_{,5} = 0. \quad (57)$$



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- Friedmann-Lemaître-Robertson-Walker metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \otimes dx^\nu = -n_\mu n_\nu + h_{\mu\nu} = -N^2 dt \otimes dt + A^2 \gamma_{ab} dx^a \otimes dx^b. \quad (58)$$

⇒ Scale factor A , lapse function N , conformal Hubble parameter $\mathcal{H} = \partial_t A / N$.

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- Cosmologically symmetric torsion tensor:

$$\bar{T}_{\mu\nu\rho} = \frac{2\mathcal{V} h_{\mu[\nu} n_{\rho]} + 2\mathcal{A} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}}{A}. \quad (59)$$

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- Two branches of geometries with spatial curvature parameter $k = u^2$: [\[MH '20\]](#)

1. “Vector” branch:

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{H} \pm iu, \quad \mathcal{A} = 0, \quad (60)$$

2. “Axial” branch:

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{H}, \quad \mathcal{A} = \pm u. \quad (61)$$

Spatial geometry and 3 + 1 decomposition

- Geometric objects defining spatial geometry:

- Decomposition of Friedmann-Lemaître-Robertson-Walker metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = -n_\mu n_\nu + h_{\mu\nu}. \quad (62)$$

- Unit normal (co-)vector field:

$$n_\mu dx^\mu = -N dt. \quad (63)$$

- Induced metric $h_{\mu\nu}$ and constant background metric γ_{ab} on spatial hypersurfaces:

$$h_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \otimes dx^\nu = A^2 \gamma_{ab} dx^a \otimes dx^b. \quad (64)$$

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$$\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} = n^\sigma \varepsilon_{\sigma\mu\nu\rho}, \quad \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} dx^\mu \otimes dx^\nu \otimes dx^\rho = A^3 v_{abc} dx^a \otimes dx^b \otimes dx^c. \quad (65)$$

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$$\tau_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \otimes dx^\nu = \hat{\tau}_{00} dt \otimes dt + \hat{\tau}_{a0} A dx^a \otimes dt + \hat{\tau}_{0b} A dt \otimes dx^b + \hat{\tau}_{ab} A^2 dx^a \otimes dx^b. \quad (66)$$

- Decomposition of tetrad perturbations $\tau_{\mu\nu}$:

$$\hat{\tau}_{00} = \hat{\phi}, \quad (67a)$$

$$\hat{\tau}_{0b} = \mathbf{d}_b \hat{j} + \hat{b}_b, \quad (67b)$$

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Cosmological perturbations in metric teleparallel gravity

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- Note that the term $\mathbf{d}_b \hat{c}_a$ is not symmetrized: [Golovnev, Koivisto '18]

- Antisymmetric part $\mathbf{d}_{[a} \hat{c}_{b]} = \frac{1}{2} v_{abc} v^{dec} \mathbf{d}_d \hat{c}_e$ can be absorbed into \hat{w}^a .
- Vanishing divergence follows from Bianchi identity

$$\mathbf{d}_c (v^{dec} \mathbf{d}_d \hat{c}_e) = v^{dec} \mathbf{d}_{[c} \mathbf{d}_{d]} \hat{c}_e = \frac{1}{2} v^{dec} R^f{}_{ecd} \hat{c}_f = 0. \quad (69)$$

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⇒ Number of components: $6 + 4 \times 2 + 1 \times 2 = 16$.

- Split gauge transformation $x'^{\mu} = x^{\mu} + X^{\mu}(x)$:

$$\hat{X}_0 = \hat{X}_{\perp}, \quad \hat{X}_a = d_a \hat{X}_{\parallel} + \hat{Z}_a \quad (70)$$

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⇒ Transformation of perturbation components:

$$A\delta_X \hat{\tau}_{0b} = d_b \hat{X}_{\perp} + (d_b \hat{X}_{\parallel} + \hat{Z}_b)(\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{H}), \quad (71a)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{\tau}_{a0} = d_a \hat{X}'_{\parallel} + Z'_a - \mathcal{V}(d_a \hat{X}_{\parallel} + Z_a), \quad (71b)$$

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Gauge transformation of cosmological perturbations

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⇒ Irreducible decomposition: [MH '20]

$$A\delta_X \hat{\psi} = -\mathcal{H} \hat{X}_{\perp}, \quad (72a)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{\sigma} = \hat{X}_{\parallel}, \quad (72b)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{y} = \hat{X}'_{\parallel} - \mathcal{V} \hat{X}_{\parallel}, \quad (72c)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{j} = \hat{X}_{\perp} + (\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{H}) \hat{X}_{\parallel}, \quad (72d)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{\xi} = -\mathcal{A} \hat{X}_{\parallel}, \quad (72e)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{\phi} = \hat{X}'_{\perp}, \quad (72f)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{c}_a = \hat{Z}_a, \quad (72g)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{v}_a = \hat{Z}'_a - \mathcal{V} \hat{Z}_a, \quad (72h)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{b}_a = (\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{H}) \hat{Z}_a, \quad (72i)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{w}_a = -\mathcal{A} \hat{Z}_a, \quad (72j)$$

$$A\delta_X \hat{q}_{ab} = 0. \quad (72k)$$

Gauge-invariant perturbations

- Gauge-invariant cosmological tetrad perturbations: [MH '20]

- Scalar perturbations - 3 scalars + 1 pseudo-scalar:

$$\hat{\xi} = \hat{\xi} + \mathcal{A} \hat{\sigma}, \quad (73a)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \hat{\sigma}' - (\mathcal{H} - \mathcal{V}) \hat{\sigma}, \quad (73b)$$

$$\hat{\psi} = \hat{\psi} + \mathcal{H}[\hat{\mathbf{j}} + (\mathcal{H} - \mathcal{V}) \hat{\sigma}], \quad (73c)$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \hat{\phi} - \mathcal{H}[\hat{\mathbf{j}} + (\mathcal{H} - \mathcal{V}) \hat{\sigma}] + [\hat{\mathbf{j}} + (\mathcal{H} - \mathcal{V}) \hat{\sigma}]'. \quad (73d)$$

- Vector perturbations - 2 divergence-free vectors + 1 pseudo-vector:

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_a = \hat{\mathbf{v}}_a + (\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{H}) \hat{\mathbf{c}}_a - \hat{\mathbf{c}}_a', \quad (73e)$$

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⇒ Number of components: $4 + 3 \times 2 + 1 \times 2 = 12 = 16 - 4$.

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Challenges and solutions in perturbation theory

- Problem statement and definition:
 - Perturbations of geometry: field equations and solution.
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- Packages in xAct dedicated to perturbation theory:
 - xPert: Computer algebra for metric perturbation theory [\[Brizuela, Martín-García, Mena Marugán '08\]](#)
 - xPand: Computer algebra for cosmological perturbation theory [\[Pitrou, Roy, Umeh '13\]](#)
 - **xPPN: Computer algebra for the PPN formalism** [\[MH '20\]](#)

- Most common geometric objects pre-defined:
 - Background geometry: Minkowski metric $\eta_{\mu\nu}$, diagonal background tetrad $\Delta^A{}_{\mu} \dots$
 - Dynamical geometry: metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, tetrad $\theta^A{}_{\mu}$, different connections. . .
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- Code and examples: <http://geomgrav.fi.ut.ee/software/xPPN.html>

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- Computational tools applicable to perturbation theory:
 - Geometric nature of gravity theories suggest using tensor algebra.
 - Fixed schemes in perturbation theory suitable for algorithmic approach.
 - Example: xPPN package for xAct / Mathematica allows calculating PPN parameters.


- Fundamental questions in perturbation theory:
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- Development of computational tools:
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Perturbative Methods in Gravity Theory

Guest Editor
Dr. Manuel Hohmann

Deadline
26 April 2021

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