# Classification of cosmological tetrads and teleparallel geometries

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# Outline

- 1. Metric-affine and teleparallel geometry
- 2. Symmetries of metrics, tetrads and connections
- 3. Cosmological symmetry: state of the art
- 4. Three approaches to teleparallel cosmology
- 4.1 The tetrad & representation approach
- 4.2 The metric-affine approach
- 4.3 The torsion decomposition approach
- 5. Two branches of cosmological teleparallel geometries
- 5.1 The "vector" branch
- 5.2 The "axial" or "two-form" branch
- 6. Properties & applications
- 7. Conclusion

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# Definition of metric-affine geometry

#### • Metric tensor $g_{\mu\nu}$ :

- Defines length of and angle between tangent vectors.
- Defines length of curves and proper time.
- Defines causality (spacelike and timelike directions).

# Definition of metric-affine geometry

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  - Defines length of and angle between tangent vectors.
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  - Defines causality (spacelike and timelike directions).
- Connection with coefficients  $\Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho}$ :
  - Defines covariant derivative  $\nabla_{\mu}$  of tensor fields.
  - Defines parallel transport along arbitrary curves.
  - Defines autoparallel curves via parallel transport of tangent vector.

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  - Defines autoparallel curves via parallel transport of tangent vector.
- ! In general the connection is defined independently of the metric.

## Properties of metric-affine geometry

- Three characteristic quantities:
  - Curvature:

$$\boldsymbol{R}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} = \partial_{\rho}\boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\sigma} - \partial_{\sigma}\boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\tau\rho}\boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{\tau}{}_{\nu\sigma} - \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\tau\sigma}\boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{\tau}{}_{\nu\rho} \,. \tag{1}$$

Torsion:

$$T^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\rho\nu} - \Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} \,. \tag{2}$$

• Nonmetricity:

$$Q_{\mu\nu\rho} = \nabla_{\mu} g_{\nu\rho} = \partial_{\mu} g_{\nu\rho} - \Gamma^{\sigma}{}_{\nu\mu} g_{\sigma\rho} - \Gamma^{\sigma}{}_{\rho\mu} g_{\nu\sigma} \,. \tag{3}$$

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Some special classes of connections used in gravity theory:

- Levi-Civita connection: T = Q = 0.
- Metric teleparallelism: R = Q = 0.
- Symmetric teleparallelism: R = T = 0.

## Decomposition of the connection

Affine connection can be decomposed:

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- Parts of the decomposition:
  - Levi-Civita connection of the metric:

$$\overset{\circ}{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\sigma} \left( \partial_{\nu} g_{\sigma\rho} + \partial_{\rho} g_{\nu\sigma} - \partial_{\sigma} g_{\nu\rho} \right) \,. \tag{5}$$

Contortion:

$$K^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \frac{1}{2} \left( T_{\nu}{}^{\mu}{}_{\rho} + T_{\rho}{}^{\mu}{}_{\nu} - T^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} \right) \,. \tag{6}$$

• Disformation:

$$L^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \frac{1}{2} \left( Q^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} - Q^{\mu}{}_{\rho} - Q^{\mu}{}_{\rho}{}_{\nu} \right) \,. \tag{7}$$

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#### • All three components depend on the metric.

# Tetrad and spin connection formulation

- Metric teleparallelism conventionally formulated using:
  - Tetrad / coframe:  $\theta^a = \theta^a{}_\mu dx^\mu$  with inverse  $e_a = e_a{}^\mu \partial_\mu$ .
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- Induced metric-affine geometry:

• Metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{ab} \theta^a{}_{\mu} \theta^b{}_{\nu} \,. \tag{8}$$

• Affine connection:

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- Conditions on the spin connection:
  - Flatness R = 0:

$$\partial_{\mu}\omega^{a}{}_{b\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\omega^{a}{}_{b\mu} + \omega^{a}{}_{c\mu}\omega^{c}{}_{b\nu} - \omega^{a}{}_{c\nu}\omega^{c}{}_{b\mu} = 0.$$
 (10)

• Metric compatibility Q = 0:

$$\eta_{ac}\omega^{c}{}_{b\mu}+\eta_{bc}\omega^{c}{}_{a\mu}=0. \tag{11}$$

• Local Lorentz transformation of the tetrad only:

$$\theta^{a}{}_{\mu} \mapsto \theta^{\prime a}{}_{\mu} = \Lambda^{a}{}_{b}\theta^{b}{}_{\mu} \,. \tag{12}$$

✓ Metric is invariant: 
$$g'_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}$$
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 $\oint$  Connection is not invariant:  $\Gamma'^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} \neq \Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho}$ .

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- $\Rightarrow$  Metric-affine geometry equivalently described by:
  - Metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and affine connection  $\Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho}$ .
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  - Equivalence defined with respect to local Lorentz transformations.
  - Teleparallel geometry admits Weitzenböck gauge:  $\omega^a{}_{b\mu} \equiv 0$ .

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# Symmetry transformations of metric-affine geometry

- Finite spacetime transformation:
  - Action  $\varphi : G \times M \to M$  of symmetry group G with  $x' = \varphi_u(x)$ .
  - Transformations of fundamental geometric objects:
    - ★ Metric:

$$(\varphi_{\nu}^{*}g)_{\mu\nu}(x) = g_{\tau\omega}(x')\frac{\partial x'^{\tau}}{\partial x^{\mu}}\frac{\partial x'^{\omega}}{\partial x^{\nu}}.$$
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Connection coefficients:

$$\left(\varphi_{u}^{*}\Gamma\right)^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho}(x) = \Gamma^{\sigma}{}_{\tau\omega}(x')\frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial x'^{\sigma}}\frac{\partial x'^{\tau}}{\partial x^{\nu}}\frac{\partial x'^{\omega}}{\partial x^{\rho}} + \frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial x'^{\sigma}}\frac{\partial^{2} x'^{\sigma}}{\partial x^{\nu}\partial x^{\rho}}.$$
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- Infinitesimal spacetime transformation:
  - Generating vector fields  $X_{\xi}$  on M with  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$ .
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$$(\mathcal{L}_{X_{\xi}}g)_{\mu\nu} = X_{\xi}^{\rho}\partial_{\rho}g_{\mu\nu} + \partial_{\mu}X_{\xi}^{\rho}g_{\rho\nu} + \partial_{\nu}X_{\xi}^{\rho}g_{\mu\rho}.$$
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$$= \nabla_{\rho}\nabla_{\nu}X_{\xi}^{\mu} - X_{\xi}^{\sigma}R^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} - \nabla_{\rho}(X_{\xi}^{\sigma}T^{\mu}{}_{\nu\sigma}) = \mathbf{0}.$$

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## Symmetry of tetrad and spin connection

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    - ⋆ Tetrad:

$$(\varphi_u^*\theta)^a{}_\mu(x) = \theta^a{}_\nu(x')\frac{\partial x'^\nu}{\partial x^\mu}.$$
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Spin connection:

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## • Symmetry requires $\Lambda_u(x) \in SO(1,3)$ and $\lambda_{\xi}(x) \in \mathfrak{so}(1,3)$ .

Manuel Hohmann (University of Tartu) Teleparallel gravity & cosmological symmetry

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 $\Rightarrow \lambda$  must be local Lie algebra homomorphism:

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{[\xi,\zeta]} = [\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\xi}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\zeta}]. \tag{24}$$

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$$= \partial_{\mu}\lambda^{a}_{\xi b} + \omega^{a}{}_{c\mu}\lambda^{c}_{\xi b} - \omega^{c}{}_{b\mu}\lambda^{a}_{\xi c} \qquad (26)$$
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=  $\partial_{\mu}\lambda^{a}_{\xi b} + \omega^{a}{}_{c\mu}\lambda^{c}_{\xi b} - \omega^{c}{}_{b\mu}\lambda^{a}_{\xi c}$  (26)  
 $\equiv \partial_{\mu}\lambda^{a}_{\xi b}$ .

#### $\Rightarrow$ Homomorphisms $\Lambda$ and $\lambda$ are constant in Weitzenböck gauge.

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- 1. Metric-affine and teleparallel geometry
- 2. Symmetries of metrics, tetrads and connections
- 3. Cosmological symmetry: state of the art
- 4. Three approaches to teleparallel cosmology
- 4.1 The tetrad & representation approach
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- 5.1 The "vector" branch
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• Use spherical coordinates  $t, r, \vartheta, \varphi$ .
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- Generating vector fields:
  - Rotations:

$$R_1 = \sin \varphi \partial_\vartheta + \frac{\cos \varphi}{\tan \vartheta} \partial_\varphi \,, \tag{27a}$$

$$R_2 = -\cos\varphi \partial_\vartheta + \frac{\sin\varphi}{\tan\vartheta} \partial_\varphi , \qquad (27b)$$

$$R_3 = -\partial_{\varphi} \,,$$
 (27c)

Translations:

$$T_{1} = \chi \sin \vartheta \cos \varphi \partial_{r} + \frac{\chi}{r} \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi \partial_{\vartheta} - \frac{\chi \sin \varphi}{r \sin \vartheta} \partial_{\varphi}, \qquad (28a)$$

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• Here  $\chi = \sqrt{1 - (ur)^2}$ , and *u* can be real or imaginary.

# Symmetry group and algebra

Commutation relations of symmetry generators:

$$[\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{R}_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{R}_k \,, \tag{29a}$$

$$[T_i, T_j] = u^2 \epsilon_{ijk} R_k , \qquad (29b)$$
  
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• Symmetry group depends on *u*:

- $u^2 > 0$ : positive spatial curvature, symmetry group SO(4).
- $u^2 < 0$ : negative spatial curvature, symmetry group SO<sub>0</sub>(3, 1).
- $u^2 = 0$ : vanishing spatial curvature, symmetry group ISO(3).

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- $u^2 = 0$ : vanishing spatial curvature, symmetry group ISO(3).
- Helpful to compare with Lorentz algebra:

$$[J_i, J_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} J_k \,, \tag{30a}$$

$$[K_i, K_j] = -\epsilon_{ijk} J_k , \qquad (30b)$$

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## Cosmologically symmetric Riemannian geometry

Most general metric with cosmological symmetry:

$$g_{tt} = -\mathcal{N}^2, \quad g_{rr} = \frac{\mathcal{A}^2}{\chi^2}, \quad g_{\vartheta\vartheta} = \mathcal{A}^2 r^2, \quad g_{\varphi\varphi} = \mathcal{A}^2 r^2 \sin^2 \vartheta \quad (31)$$

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- Metric depends on two functions of time t:
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- Totally antisymmetric tensor  $\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$ :

$$\epsilon_{tr\vartheta\varphi} = \sqrt{-\det g} = \frac{\mathcal{N}\mathcal{A}^3 r^2 \sin\vartheta}{\chi} \,. \tag{32}$$

### 3 + 1 split of Riemannian geometry

- Canonical 3 + 1 split of the metric:
  - Unit normal (co-)vector field:

$$N = n^{\sharp} = \frac{1}{N} \partial_t, \quad n = N^{\flat} = -N \mathrm{d}t.$$
 (33)

• Spatial metric (gives projection onto spatial slices):

$$h = g + n \otimes n = \mathcal{A}^{2} \left[ \frac{\mathrm{d} r \otimes \mathrm{d} r}{\chi^{2}} + r^{2} (\mathrm{d} \vartheta \otimes \mathrm{d} \vartheta + \sin^{2} \vartheta \mathrm{d} \varphi \otimes \mathrm{d} \varphi) \right].$$
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Induced spatial volume form via

$$\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} = \mathbf{n}^{\sigma} \epsilon_{\sigma\mu\nu\rho} , \quad \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \mathbf{4} \varepsilon_{[\mu\nu\rho} \mathbf{n}_{\sigma]} .$$
(35)

so that

$$\varepsilon_{r\vartheta\varphi} = \frac{\mathcal{A}^3 r^2 \sin \vartheta}{\chi}, \quad \varepsilon_{tij} = 0.$$
 (36)

• Riemann tensor:

$$\mathring{R}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = 2\frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}^2 + u^2\mathcal{N}^2}{\mathcal{A}^2\mathcal{N}^2}h_{\mu[\rho}h_{\sigma]\nu} + 4\frac{\ddot{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{N} - \dot{\mathcal{A}}\dot{\mathcal{N}}}{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N}^3}n_{[\mu}h_{\nu][\rho}n_{\sigma]}.$$
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Ricci scalar:

$$\mathring{R} = 6 \frac{u^2 \mathcal{N}^3 + \dot{\mathcal{A}}^2 \mathcal{N} - \mathcal{A} \dot{\mathcal{A}} \dot{\mathcal{N}} + \mathcal{A} \ddot{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}^2 \mathcal{N}^3} \,. \tag{39}$$

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  - Similar expressions for relevant teleparallel quantities?

- What do we know so far?
  - Most general cosmologically symmetric metric.
  - Most general cosmologically symmetric, flat, metric connection.
  - Examples of tetrads and spin connections for  $u^2 \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ .
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- We will now answer these questions.

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# Step 1: irreducible reps. of the symmetry group

- $u \neq 0$ : use "unitary trick" and complexification.
  - Irreps labeled by (m, n) with  $\{2m, 2n, m+n\} \subset \mathbb{N}$ .
  - Dimension given by (2m+1)(2n+1).
  - Irreps with dimension at most 4:

$$(0,0), (0,1), (1,0), (\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}).$$
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- u = 0: use induced representations of Euclidean group.
  - Irreps induced by representations of SO(3).
  - Irreps labeled by spin  $I \in \mathbb{N}$ .
  - Dimension given by 2l + 1.
  - Irreps with dimension at most 4:  $I \in \{0, 1\}$ .

- $u \neq 0$ : four inequivalent representations.
  - 1. Trivial representation:  $(0,0) \oplus (0,0) \oplus (0,0) \oplus (0,0)$ .
  - 2. Anti-self-dual two-form:  $(0,0) \oplus (0,1)$ .
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 $\Rightarrow$  Easier to work with Lie algebra representation:

$$\frac{\phi:\mathfrak{g}\to\mathfrak{gl}(4)}{\xi\mapsto\phi_{\xi}}.$$
(42)

### Step 3: preservation of the Minkowski metric

• Need to find basis transformation *P* such that for all  $u \in G$ :

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$$\mathbf{0} = \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\xi}^{t} \boldsymbol{\eta} + \boldsymbol{\eta} \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\xi} = \boldsymbol{P}^{t} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{\xi}^{t} \boldsymbol{P}^{-1} \, {}^{t} \boldsymbol{\eta} + \boldsymbol{\eta} \boldsymbol{P}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{\xi} \boldsymbol{P} \,. \tag{45}$$

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$$0 = \lambda_{\xi}^{t} \eta + \eta \lambda_{\xi} = P^{t} \phi_{\xi}^{t} P^{-1 t} \eta + \eta P^{-1} \phi_{\xi} P.$$
(45)

→ Solve for transformations P satisfying

$$0 = P\eta P^t \phi_{\xi}^t + \phi_{\xi} P\eta P^t \,. \tag{46}$$

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⇒ Lie algebra representation matrices must satisfy

$$0 = \lambda_{\xi}^{t} \eta + \eta \lambda_{\xi} = P^{t} \phi_{\xi}^{t} P^{-1 t} \eta + \eta P^{-1} \phi_{\xi} P.$$
(45)

→ Solve for transformations *P* satisfying

$$0 = P\eta P^t \phi_{\xi}^t + \phi_{\xi} P\eta P^t \,. \tag{46}$$

#### ✓ Transformations exist for all four-dimensional representations.

- $u \neq 0$ : four inequivalent homomorphisms.
  - 1. Trivial representation:  $\lambda(R_i) = \lambda(T_i) = 0$ .
  - 2. Anti-self-dual two-form:  $\lambda(R_i) = J_i$ ,  $\lambda(T_i) = uJ_i$ .
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  - $\oint$  Some homomorphisms become complex depending on sign of  $u^2$ .

- Solve symmetry conditions in Weitzenböck gauge:
  - Solve three conditions for  $R_i$  to get spherical symmetry:
    - $\oint$  Trivial case  $\lambda(R_i) = 0$  has no solutions (topological obstruction).
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- Calculate spin connection:  $\omega'^{a}_{b\mu} = \Lambda^{a}_{c} \partial_{\mu} (\Lambda^{-1})^{c}_{b}$ .

# Outline

- 1. Metric-affine and teleparallel geometry
- 2. Symmetries of metrics, tetrads and connections
- 3. Cosmological symmetry: state of the art
- 4. Three approaches to teleparallel cosmology
- 4.1 The tetrad & representation approach
- 4.2 The metric-affine approach
- 4.3 The torsion decomposition approach
- 5. Two branches of cosmological teleparallel geometries5.1 The "vector" branch5.2 The "axial" or "two-form" branch
- 6. Properties & applications
- 7. Conclusion

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#### Step 1: most general connection

Solve symmetry condition for cosmological generators:

$$0 = (\mathcal{L}_{X_{\xi}}\Gamma)^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \nabla_{\rho}\nabla_{\nu}X^{\mu}_{\xi} - X^{\sigma}_{\xi}R^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} - \nabla_{\rho}(X^{\sigma}_{\xi}T^{\mu}{}_{\nu\sigma}).$$
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\Gamma^{r}_{rr} = \frac{u^{2}r}{\chi^{2}}, \quad \Gamma^{t}_{rr} = \frac{\mathcal{K}_{2}}{\chi^{2}}, \quad \Gamma^{t}_{\vartheta \vartheta} = \mathcal{K}_{2}r^{2}, \quad \Gamma^{t}_{\varphi \varphi} = \mathcal{K}_{2}r^{2}\sin^{2}\vartheta, \\
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\Gamma^{\varphi}_{\vartheta \varphi} = \Gamma^{\varphi}_{\varphi \vartheta} = \cot\vartheta, \quad \Gamma^{\vartheta}_{\varphi \varphi} = -\sin\vartheta\cos\vartheta, \\
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⇒ Depends on five free functions  $\mathcal{K}_1(t), \ldots, \mathcal{K}_5(t)$  of time.

### Step 2: impose metric compatibility

Calculate nonmetricity:

$$Q_{\rho\mu\nu} = 2Q_1 n_\rho n_\mu n_\nu + 2Q_2 n_\rho h_{\mu\nu} + 2Q_3 h_{\rho(\mu} n_{\nu)}, \qquad (51)$$

where

$$Q_{1} = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{N}}}{\mathcal{N}^{2}} - \frac{\mathcal{K}_{1}}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad Q_{2} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \left( \mathcal{K}_{4} - \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}} \right), \quad Q_{3} = \frac{\mathcal{K}_{3}}{\mathcal{N}} - \frac{\mathcal{K}_{2}\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}^{2}}.$$
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 $\Rightarrow$  Metric-affine geometry satisfies  $Q_{
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 $\Rightarrow$  Metricity determines  $\mathcal{K}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{K}_4$  and ratio between  $\mathcal{K}_2$  and  $\mathcal{K}_3$ .

## Step 3: impose flatness

• Calculate curvature of most general connection:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} &= 2 \frac{\mathcal{K}_{3}(\mathcal{K}_{4} - \mathcal{K}_{1}) + \dot{\mathcal{K}}_{3}}{\mathcal{N}^{2}} n_{\nu} n_{[\rho} h_{\sigma]\mu} - 2 \frac{\mathcal{K}_{3}\mathcal{K}_{5}}{\mathcal{N}\mathcal{A}} n_{\nu} \varepsilon_{\mu\rho\sigma} \\ &+ 2 \frac{\mathcal{K}_{2}(\mathcal{K}_{4} - \mathcal{K}_{1}) - \dot{\mathcal{K}}_{2}}{\mathcal{A}^{2}} n_{\mu} n_{[\rho} h_{\sigma]\nu} - 2 \frac{\dot{\mathcal{K}}_{5}}{\mathcal{N}\mathcal{A}} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu[\rho} n_{\sigma]} \\ &+ 2 \frac{\mathcal{K}_{2}\mathcal{K}_{5}\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}^{3}} n_{\mu} \varepsilon_{\nu\rho\sigma} + 2 \frac{u^{2} + \mathcal{K}_{2}\mathcal{K}_{3} - \mathcal{K}_{5}^{2}}{\mathcal{A}^{2}} h_{\mu[\rho} h_{\sigma]\nu} \,. \end{aligned}$$
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 $\Rightarrow$  Several coupled conditions, whose solution depends on *u*.
Two of three metricity conditions solved immediately:

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$$u = 0$$
: only solution given by  $\mathcal{K}_2 = \mathcal{K}_3 = \mathcal{K}_5 = 0$ .

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- Distinguish two cases for flatness condition:
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  - 2.  $u \neq 0$  admits two distinct solutions:
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• Start from diagonal tetrad:

$$\theta'^{0} = \mathcal{N} dt, \quad \theta'^{1} = \frac{\mathcal{A}}{\chi} dr, \quad \theta'^{2} = \mathcal{A} r d\vartheta, \quad \theta'^{3} = \mathcal{A} r \sin \vartheta d\varphi.$$
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Calculate spin connection ω<sup>'a</sup><sub>bµ</sub> from "tetrad postulate":

$$\mathbf{0} = \nabla_{\mu} \theta^{\prime a}{}_{\nu} = \partial_{\mu} \theta^{\prime a}{}_{\nu} + \omega^{\prime a}{}_{b\mu} \theta^{\prime b}{}_{\nu} - \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\nu\mu} \theta^{\prime a}{}_{\rho} \,. \tag{58}$$

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- ✓ Find same spin connections as using first approach.
- ~ Perform Lorentz transformation to Weitzenböck gauge.
- $\checkmark\,$  Obtain same non-diagonal tetrads as using first approach.

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- 1. Metric-affine and teleparallel geometry
- 2. Symmetries of metrics, tetrads and connections
- 3. Cosmological symmetry: state of the art

#### 4. Three approaches to teleparallel cosmology

- 4.1 The tetrad & representation approach
- 4.2 The metric-affine approach
- 4.3 The torsion decomposition approach

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- $\Rightarrow$  Most general cosmological teleparallel spacetime.
  - Proceed as before to determine cosmological tetrad.

#### Step 1: decomposition of the connection

Recall decomposition of the connection:

$$\Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \overset{\circ}{\Gamma}{}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + K^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + L^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} \,. \tag{59}$$

- Levi-Civita connection  $\mathring{\Gamma}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho}$  of the metric.
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- Contortion expressed in terms of torsion and metric:

$$K^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \frac{1}{2} \left( T_{\nu}{}^{\mu}{}_{\rho} + T_{\rho}{}^{\mu}{}_{\nu} - T^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} \right) \,. \tag{60}$$

#### Step 2: irreducible torsion decomposition

- Torsion decomposes into three irreducible parts:
  - Vector torsion:

$$\mathfrak{v}_{\mu} = T^{\nu}{}_{\nu\mu} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathfrak{V}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \frac{2}{3} \delta^{\mu}{}_{[\nu} \mathfrak{v}_{\rho]} \,.$$
 (61a)

Axial torsion:

$$\mathfrak{a}_{\mu} = \frac{1}{6} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} T^{\nu\rho\sigma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathfrak{A}_{\mu\nu\rho} = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \mathfrak{a}^{\sigma} \,. \tag{61b}$$

Tensor torsion:

$$\mathfrak{t}_{\mu\nu\rho} = T_{(\mu\nu)\rho} + \frac{1}{3} \left( T^{\sigma}{}_{\sigma(\mu}g_{\nu)\rho} - T^{\sigma}{}_{\sigma\rho}g_{\mu\nu} \right) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathfrak{T}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \frac{4}{3} \mathfrak{t}^{\mu}{}_{[\nu\rho]}.$$
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• Unique decomposition  $T^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} = \mathfrak{V}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + \mathfrak{U}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho} + \mathfrak{T}^{\mu}{}_{\nu\rho}$  such that

$$\mathfrak{A}^{\nu}{}_{\nu\mu} = \mathfrak{T}^{\nu}{}_{\nu\mu} = \mathbf{0} \,, \quad \mathfrak{V}_{[\mu\nu\rho]} = \mathfrak{T}_{[\mu\nu\rho]} = \mathbf{0} \,. \tag{62}$$

Most general torsion with cosmological symmetry:

$$T_{\mu\nu\rho} = 2\mathcal{T}_1 h_{\mu[\nu} n_{\rho]} + 2\mathcal{T}_2 \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} \,. \tag{63}$$

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Irreducible decomposition:

$$\begin{split} \mathfrak{V}_{\mu\nu\rho} &= 2\mathcal{T}_{1}h_{\mu[\nu}n_{\rho]}, \qquad \qquad \mathfrak{v}_{\mu} = 3\mathcal{T}_{1}n_{\mu}, \qquad (64a)\\ \mathfrak{A}_{\mu\nu\rho} &= 2\mathcal{T}_{2}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}, \qquad \qquad \mathfrak{a}_{\mu} = -2\mathcal{T}_{2}n_{\mu}. \qquad (64b) \end{split}$$

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- ⇒ Tensor torsion always vanishes in cosmological symmetry.
- $\Rightarrow$  Torsion fully determined by scalar  $\mathcal{T}_1(t)$  and pseudo-scalar  $\mathcal{T}_2(t)$ .

• Calculate connection coefficients:

$$\mathcal{K}_{1} = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{N}}}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_{2} = \frac{\mathcal{A}\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{N}^{2}} - \frac{\mathcal{A}^{2}\mathcal{T}_{1}}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_{3} = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}} - \mathcal{N}\mathcal{T}_{1}, \quad \mathcal{K}_{4} = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_{5} = \mathcal{A}\mathcal{T}_{2}.$$
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- Flatness given by two solutions:
  - 1. "Pure vector" solution:

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N}} \pm \frac{iu}{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \mathcal{T}_2 = 0.$$
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✓ Obtain same solutions as if started from general connection.
 → Apply same procedure as before to obtain symmetric tetrads.

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# Solution in Weitzenböck gauge

• Homomorphism of the symmetry algebra:

$$R_i \mapsto J_i, \quad T_i \mapsto i u K_i.$$
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⇒ Symmetric tetrad in Weitzenböck gauge:

$$\theta^{0} = \mathcal{N}\chi dt + iu\mathcal{A}\frac{r}{\chi} dr, \qquad (69a)$$
  

$$\theta^{1} = \mathcal{A}\left[\sin\vartheta\cos\varphi\left(dr + iu\frac{\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}}rdt\right) + r\cos\vartheta\cos\varphi d\vartheta - r\sin\vartheta\sin\varphi d\varphi\right] \qquad (69b)$$
  

$$\theta^{2} = \mathcal{A}\left[\sin\vartheta\sin\varphi\left(dr + iu\frac{\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}}rdt\right) + r\cos\vartheta\sin\varphi d\vartheta + r\sin\vartheta\cos\varphi d\varphi\right] \qquad (69c)$$
  

$$\theta^{3} = \mathcal{A}\left[\cos\vartheta\left(dr + iu\frac{\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}}rdt\right) - r\sin\vartheta d\vartheta\right], \qquad (69d)$$

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 $\Rightarrow$  Real for  $u^2 \le 0$ , complex for  $u^2 > 0$ .

## Transformation to diagonal gauge

• Diagonalizing Lorentz transformation:

$$\Lambda^{a}{}_{b} = \begin{pmatrix} \chi & -iur\sin\vartheta\cos\varphi & -iur\sin\vartheta\sin\varphi & -iur\cos\vartheta \\ -iur & \chi\sin\vartheta\cos\varphi & \chi\sin\vartheta\sin\varphi & \chi\cos\vartheta \\ 0 & \cos\vartheta\cos\varphi & \cos\vartheta\sin\varphi & -\sin\vartheta \\ 0 & -\sin\varphi & \cos\varphi & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$
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.

Spin connection in diagonal gauge:

$$\omega'^{0}{}_{1r} = \omega'^{1}{}_{0r} = -\frac{iu}{\chi}, \quad \omega'^{0}{}_{2\vartheta} = \omega'^{2}{}_{0\vartheta} = -iur,$$
  
$$\omega'^{0}{}_{3\varphi} = \omega'^{3}{}_{0\varphi} = -iur\sin\vartheta, \quad \omega'^{1}{}_{2\vartheta} = -\omega'^{2}{}_{1\vartheta} = -\chi,$$
  
$$\omega'^{1}{}_{3\varphi} = -\omega'^{3}{}_{1\varphi} = -\chi\sin\vartheta, \quad \omega'^{2}{}_{3\varphi} = -\omega'^{3}{}_{2\varphi} = -\cos\vartheta.$$
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• Parameter functions in the connection:

$$\mathcal{K}_1 = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{N}}}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_2 = -iu\frac{\mathcal{A}}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_3 = -iu\frac{\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_4 = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_5 = 0.$$
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## Induced affine connection

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 $\Rightarrow$  Contortion:

$$K_{\mu\nu\rho} = 2 \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}} + iu\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N}} h_{\rho[\mu} n_{\nu]} \,. \tag{74}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \theta^{0} &= \mathcal{N} dt , \qquad (76a) \\ \theta^{1} &= \mathcal{A} \left[ \frac{\sin \vartheta \cos \varphi}{\chi} dr + r(\chi \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi + ur \sin \varphi) d\vartheta - r \sin \vartheta(\chi \sin \varphi - ur \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi) d\varphi \right] , \\ \theta^{2} &= \mathcal{A} \left[ \frac{\sin \vartheta \sin \varphi}{\chi} dr + r(\chi \cos \vartheta \sin \varphi - ur \cos \varphi) d\vartheta + r \sin \vartheta(\chi \cos \varphi + ur \cos \vartheta \sin \varphi) d\varphi \right] , \\ \theta^{3} &= \mathcal{A} \left[ \frac{\cos \vartheta}{\chi} dr - r\chi \sin \vartheta d\vartheta - ur^{2} \sin^{2} \vartheta d\varphi \right] , \qquad (76d) \end{aligned}$$

Homomorphism of the symmetry algebra:

$$R_i \mapsto J_i, \quad T_i \mapsto U J_i.$$
 (75)

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 $\Rightarrow$  Real for  $u^2 \ge 0$ , complex for  $u^2 < 0$ .

## Transformation to diagonal gauge

• Diagonalizing Lorentz transformation:

$$\Lambda^{a}{}_{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin\vartheta\cos\varphi & \sin\vartheta\sin\varphi & \cos\vartheta \\ 0 & \chi\cos\vartheta\cos\varphi + ur\sin\varphi & \chi\cos\vartheta\sin\varphi - ur\cos\varphi & -\chi\sin\vartheta \\ 0 & ur\cos\vartheta\cos\varphi - \chi\sin\varphi & \chi\cos\varphi + ur\cos\vartheta\sin\varphi & -ur\sin\vartheta \end{pmatrix}.$$
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Spin connection in diagonal gauge:

$$\omega^{\prime 1}{}_{2\vartheta} = -\omega^{\prime 2}{}_{1\vartheta} = -\chi, \quad \omega^{\prime 1}{}_{2\varphi} = -\omega^{\prime 2}{}_{1\varphi} = Ur\sin\vartheta,$$
  

$$\omega^{\prime 1}{}_{3\vartheta} = -\omega^{\prime 3}{}_{1\vartheta} = -Ur, \quad \omega^{\prime 1}{}_{3\varphi} = -\omega^{\prime 3}{}_{1\varphi} = -\chi\sin\vartheta,$$
  

$$\omega^{\prime 2}{}_{3r} = -\omega^{\prime 3}{}_{2r} = \frac{U}{\chi}, \quad \omega^{\prime 2}{}_{3\varphi} = -\omega^{\prime 3}{}_{2\varphi} = -\cos\vartheta. \quad (78)$$

#### Induced affine connection and torsion

Parameter functions in the connection:

$$\mathcal{K}_1 = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{N}}}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_2 = \mathcal{K}_3 = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathcal{K}_4 = \frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \mathcal{K}_5 = -u.$$
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 $\rightarrow$  Torsion:

$$T_{\mu\nu\rho} = 2\frac{\mathcal{A}}{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N}}h_{\mu[\nu}n_{\rho]} - 2\frac{u}{\mathcal{A}}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}.$$
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 $\Rightarrow$  Contortion:

$$K_{\mu\nu\rho} = 2\frac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}}{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N}}h_{\rho[\mu}n_{\nu]} + \frac{u}{\mathcal{A}}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}.$$
(81)

## Outline

- 1. Metric-affine and teleparallel geometry
- 2. Symmetries of metrics, tetrads and connections
- 3. Cosmological symmetry: state of the art
- 4. Three approaches to teleparallel cosmology
- 4.1 The tetrad & representation approach
- 4.2 The metric-affine approach
- 4.3 The torsion decomposition approach
- 5. Two branches of cosmological teleparallel geometries
- 5.1 The "vector" branch
- 5.2 The "axial" or "two-form" branch

#### 6. Properties & applications

#### 7. Conclusion

Torsion of general cosmological connection:

$$\mathfrak{v}_{\mu} = 3 \frac{\mathcal{K}_4 - \mathcal{K}_3}{\mathcal{N}} n_{\mu} , \quad \mathfrak{a}_{\mu} = -2 \frac{\mathcal{K}_5}{\mathcal{A}} n_{\mu} .$$
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⇒ Torsion of teleparallel cosmological connections:

	"vector"	"axial"
$\mathfrak{v}_{\mu}$	$3rac{\dot{\mathcal{A}}+iu\mathcal{N}}{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N}}\textit{n}_{\mu}$	$3rac{\dot{A}}{{\cal A}{\cal N}}n_{\mu}$
$\mathfrak{a}_{\mu}$	0	$2\frac{u}{A}n_{\mu}$
$\mathfrak{V}_{\mu u ho}$	$2 rac{\dot{A} + iuN}{AN} h_{\mu[ u} n_{ ho]}$	$2\frac{\dot{A}}{AN}h_{\mu[ u}n_{ ho]}$
$\mathfrak{A}_{\mu u ho}$	0	$-2\frac{u}{A}\varepsilon_{\mu u ho}$
real?	$u^2 \leq 0$	$u^2 \ge 0$
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- ✓ Full characterization of torsion (analogous to Riemann tensor).
- ✓ May now calculate cosmological dynamics, perturbations, ...
- $\checkmark\,$  Not necessary to work with cumbersome coordinate expressions.

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$$E_{\mu\nu} = \kappa^2 \Theta_{\mu\nu} \,. \tag{83}$$

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  - Energy-momentum tensor takes perfect fluid form:

$$\Theta_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + \rho)n_{\mu}n_{\nu} + \rho g_{\mu\nu} = \rho n_{\mu}n_{\nu} + \rho h_{\mu\nu}.$$
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Gravitational part of the field equations decomposes analogously:

$$E_{\mu\nu} = \mathfrak{N} n_{\mu} n_{\nu} + \mathfrak{H} h_{\mu\nu} \,. \tag{85}$$

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⇒ Calculate  $\mathfrak{N}(t)$  and  $\mathfrak{H}(t)$  for any given teleparallel theory. ⇒ There exist only two branches of cosmological solutions.

• Consider spatial reflection / parity transformation:

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- ⇒ Axial torsion pseudo-vector reverses sign under reflection.
  - $\Rightarrow$  "Vector" branch of tetrads is parity-invariant,  $\mathfrak{a}_{\mu} = 0$ .
  - ⇒ "Axial" branch of tetrads is not parity-invariant,  $a_{\mu} = 2\frac{u}{A}n_{\mu} \neq 0$ .

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  - Two branches of solutions depending on lapse and scale factor.
  - Simple formulas for torsion in terms of defining functions.
- Answered a few questions:
  - ✓ Determined most general cosmological teleparallel geometries.
  - ✓ Torsion & field equations expressed like in Riemannian geometry.
  - ✓ Effective way to work with perturbations in teleparallel cosmology.

# Outlook

- Cosmological (background) dynamics:
  - Study theories which distinguish vector and axial torsion.
  - Different dynamics for different branches when  $u \neq 0$ ?
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  - One branch is complex when the other is real trouble or insight?
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- Apply method to more general symmetries:
  - Spherical symmetry: black holes and quasinormal modes.
  - Planar symmetry: gravitational wave propagation.

## Literature

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