

Title: Shape Dynamics: Relativity Without Relativity

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Abstract: I review the best-matching construction, and the striking properties of a Jacobi-type action first introduced by Baierlein, Sharp and Wheeler. The simplest theories compatible with such an action principle must have a universal light-cone and gauge symmetry. I also describe the implementation of three-dimensional conformal symmetries on the basis of the BSW action, which gives a first-principles derivation of York's solution of the initial value problem in General Relativity.

THE JACOBI PRINCIPLE

For a holonomic conservative system the action

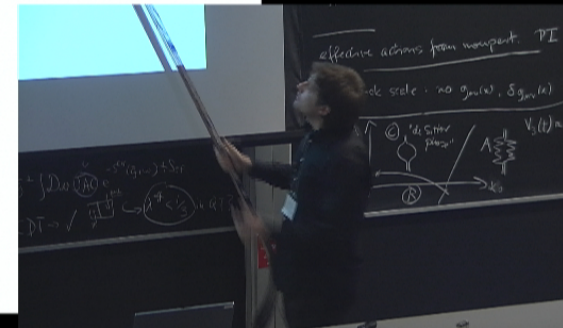
$$S_J = \int \sqrt{2(E_{\text{tot}} - U)} ds, \quad ds^2 = m^{IJ} d\mathbf{q}_I \cdot d\mathbf{q}_J$$

where $U = U(q)$ is the potential, and m^{ij} is the mass tensor and E_{tot} is a constant, has a minimum on the actual trajectory $q(t)$

The dynamical problem of finding the actual trajectory is reduced to a geometrical problem: finding the geodesics of the metric

$$g_{ab}^{IJ} = 2(E_{\text{tot}} - U) m^{IJ} \delta_{ab}$$

S_J is reparametrization-invariant: there is no notion of time



AN JACOBI-TYPE ACTION FOR GEOMETRODYNAMICS

$$S = \int d\tau \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \sqrt{U} \sqrt{T},$$

$$T = \text{“kinetic energy”}: \quad T = G^{abcd} \frac{dg_{ab}}{d\tau} \frac{dg_{cd}}{d\tau}$$

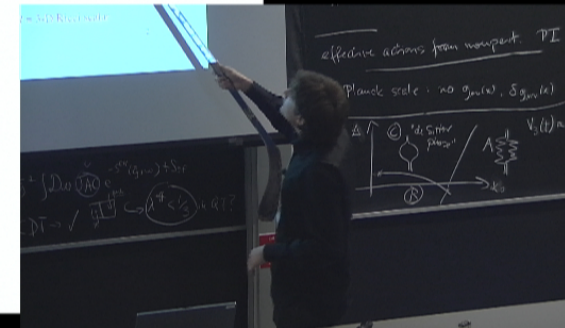
g_{ab} = 3-D positive-definite metric

$$G^{abcd} = \text{DeWitt “supermetric”}: \quad G^{abcd} = g^{ac} g^{bd} - g^{ab} g^{cd}$$

The momenta are underdetermined by the speeds $\dot{g}_{ij} \Rightarrow$ primary constraints.

The theory is consistent if the constraints propagate, *i.e.* close a first-class system. This is what the RWR approach rests on.

Let's try the simplest choice: $U = R = \text{3-D Ricci scalar}$



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MOMENTA, PRIMARY CONSTRAINTS AND THEIR PROPAGATION

$$p^{ab} = \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta \dot{g}_{ab}} = \sqrt{g} \sqrt{\frac{R}{T}} G^{abcd} \dot{g}_{cd}, \quad p^{ab} \text{ not independent}$$

$$\boxed{\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} (G^{-1})_{abcd} p^{ab} p^{cd} - \sqrt{g} R = 0} \quad (G^{-1})_{abcd} = g_{ab} g_{cd} - \frac{1}{2} g_{ac} g_{bd}$$

the constraint \mathcal{H} has to propagate:

$$\frac{d(\sqrt{g} \mathcal{H})}{d\tau} = 2\sqrt{g} N^{-1} \left(N^2 p^{ab}{}_{;b} \right)_{;a}, \quad N = \sqrt{T/4R}$$

this requires the introduction of a secondary constraint:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{H}^i = p^{ij}{}_{;j}} \approx 0$$

We have to check that the new constraint propagates as well:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{H}^i}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{g}N^{-1}(N\mathcal{H})^i - \frac{2N}{\sqrt{g}}\left(p^{ij} - \frac{1}{2}g^{ij}p\right)\mathcal{H}_j \approx 0$$

constraint algebra closes.

\mathcal{H}^i generates infinitesimal diffeomorphisms:

$$P_{\xi} = \int d^3y \xi_i(y) \mathcal{H}^i(y) \quad \{P_{\xi}, g_{ab}(x)\} = \mathcal{L}_{\xi} g_{ab}(x),$$

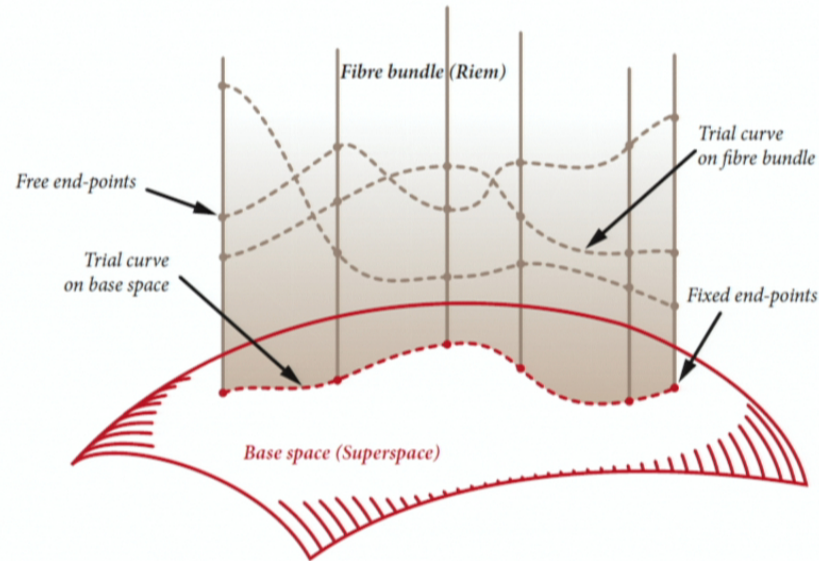
$$\mathcal{L}_{\xi} g_{ab} = \nabla_a \xi_b + \nabla_b \xi_a \quad \text{Lie derivative}$$

Our action:

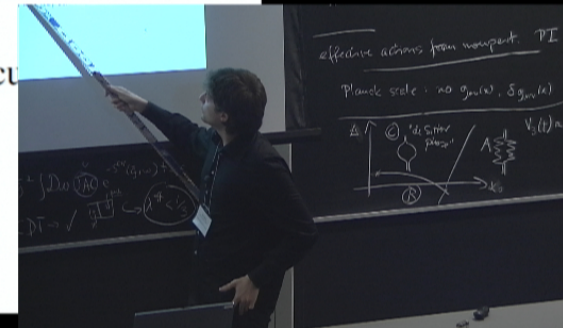
$$S = \int d\tau \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \sqrt{R} \sqrt{T}$$

is invariant under *time-independent* diffeomorphisms $\xi_i = \xi_i(x)$

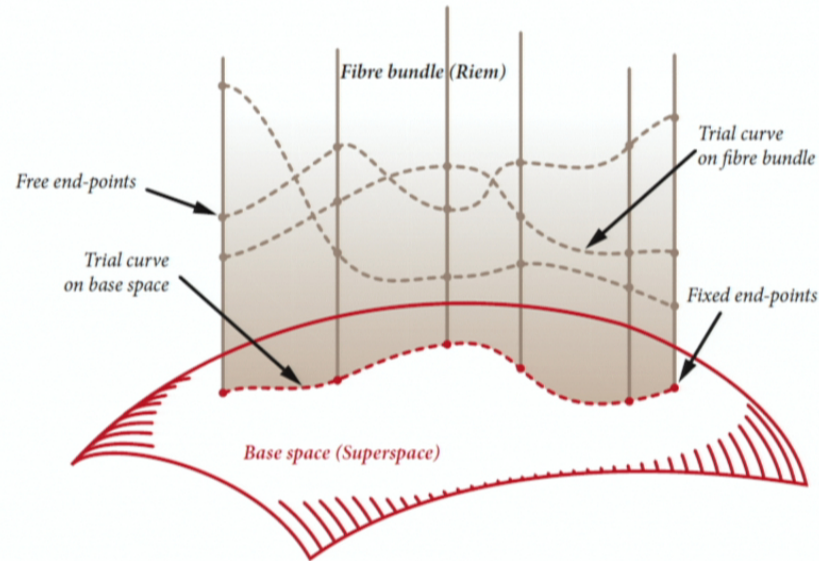
MACHIAN FREE-END-POINT VARIATION



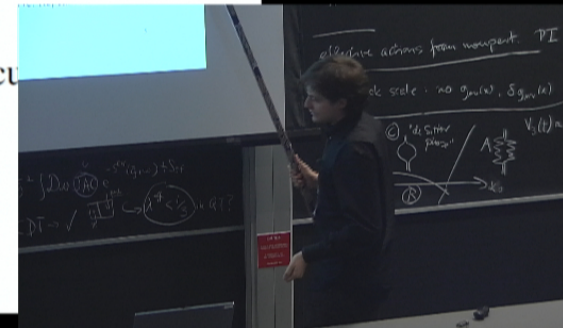
1. Take a trial curve in Superspace = Riem/3-Diffeos
2. Lift it into the fibre bundle through diffeos: you get a sheet in Riem
3. Minimize the action on that sheet *leaving the end-points free*
4. This is the **Best-Matched** action on the trial curve. Repeat on all trial curves *with fixed end-points* to find the extremal one.



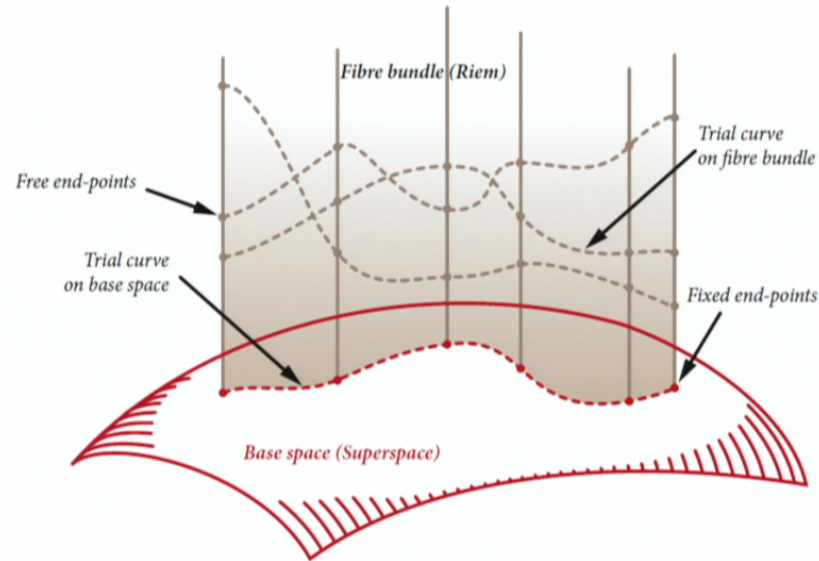
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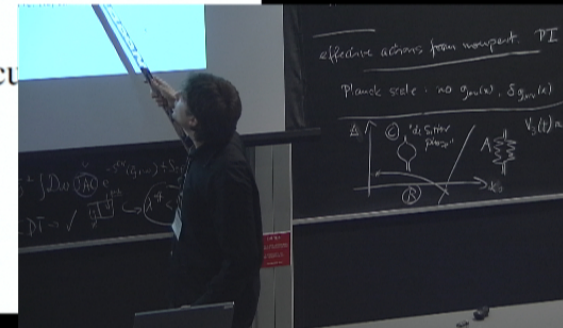
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Free end-points

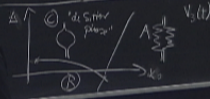
Trial curve on base space

Fibre bundle (Riem)

Trial curve on fibre bundle

Fixed end-points

Base space (Superspace)

- effective action from nonpert. PI
 Planck scale: no $g_{\text{new}}(x)$, $\mathcal{G}_{\text{new}}(x)$
 $\Delta \uparrow$ 
 $\int D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-\int d^4x \bar{\psi} (i \not{\partial} - m) \psi + \bar{\psi} \psi \phi}$
 $\text{PI} \rightarrow \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} \left[\frac{1}{\not{k} - m} \right]$

MACHIAN FREE-END-POINT VARIATION

Take a reference metric $g_{ab}(x, \tau)$ at each point of the curve τ .

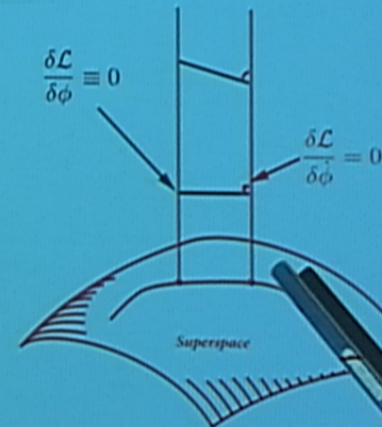
Lift the metric all over the sheet through a field $\xi_i(x, \tau)$:

$$\frac{dg_{ab}}{d\tau} \rightarrow \frac{dg_{ab}}{d\tau} - \xi_{\tau} g_{ab}, \quad \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \sqrt{g} \sqrt{R} \sqrt{G^{abcd} \frac{d}{d\tau} (g_{ab} - \xi_{\tau} g_{ab}) \frac{d}{d\tau} (g_{cd} - \xi_{\tau} g_{cd})}$$

then minimize without keeping the end point fixed.

$$\frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta \xi_i} = 0 \quad \text{selects horizontal section}$$

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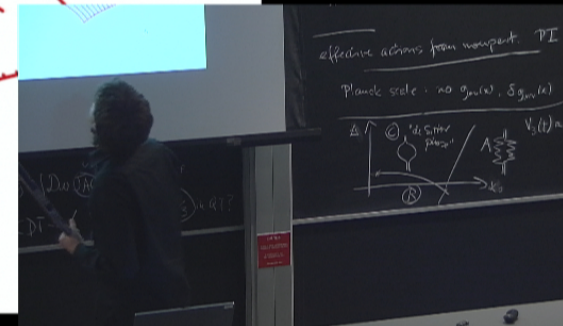
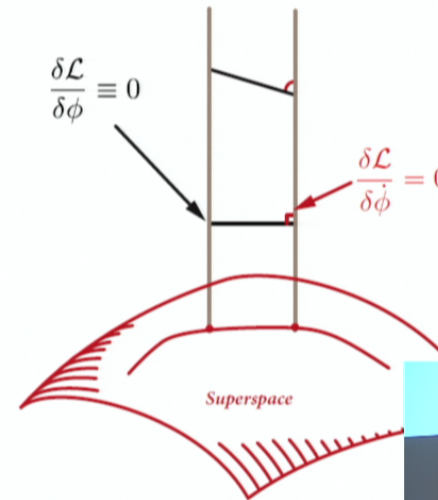
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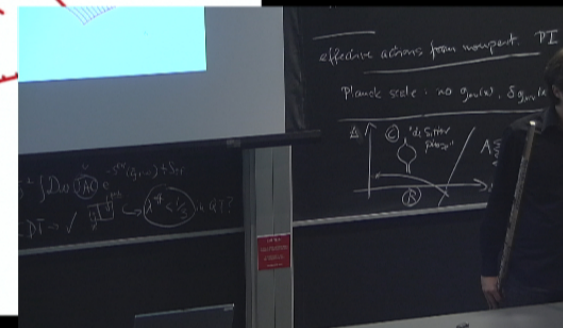
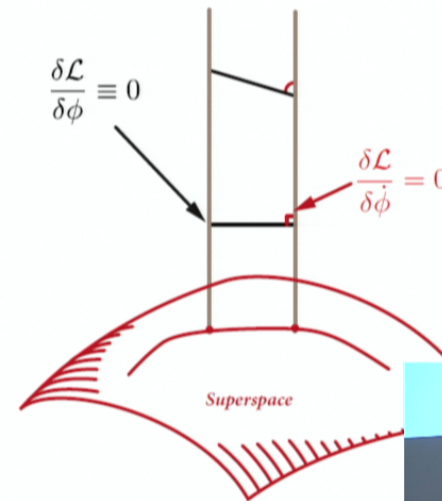
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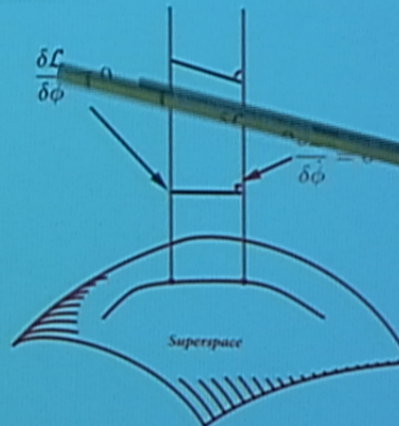
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THE BAIERLEIN-SHARP-WHEELER ACTION

What we found is the “BSW action”:

In 1962 Baierlein, Sharp and Wheeler found a way to rewrite the Arnowitt-Deser-Misner action of General Relativity as a Jacobi-type action, which is explicitly reparametrization-invariant

$$S_{BSW} = \int d\tau \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \sqrt{R} \sqrt{k^{ij} k_{ij} - \text{tr} k^2}$$

$$k_{ij} = \frac{dg_{ij}}{d\tau} - N_{(i;j)}$$

[Baierlein, Sharp, Wheeler, Phys. Rev. **126**, (1962)]

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RIGIDITY OF BSW

Barbour, Foster and Ó Murchadha [Class.Quant.Grav. **19** (2002) 3217]

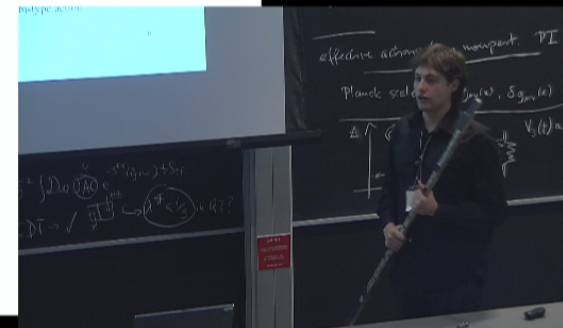
tested the consistency of different choices of the potential:

$$R - 2\Lambda, \quad R^\alpha, \quad R^{ab}R_{ab}, \quad \nabla^2 R, \quad \dots$$

and linear combinations thereof. The propagation of the quadratic constraint always led to a proliferation of secondary constraints that trivialize the theory, *apart from the case $R - 2\Lambda$ of a cosmological constant.*

(Niall Ó Murchadha input)

BSW is the simplest consistent matter-free theory on superspace based on a Jacobi-type action



RELATIVITY WITHOUT RELATIVITY: SCALAR FIELD

(Barbour, Foster, Ó Murchadha [Class.Quant.Grav. **19** (2002) 3217])

Add the simplest ansatz for a scalar field:

Kinetic term: $T_\psi = \left(\frac{d\psi}{d\tau} - \xi_N \psi \right)^2$

Potential term: $V_\psi = \frac{k}{4} g^{ab} \nabla_a \psi \nabla_b \psi + U(\psi)$

$$\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{g} \sqrt{R + V_\psi} \sqrt{T + T_\psi}$$

the action depends on one parameter k , and a non-derivative potential $U(\psi)$

Propagation of the constraints:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{H}^i}{d\tau} \approx 0, \quad \frac{d\mathcal{H}}{d\tau} \approx (k+1) \sqrt{g} N^{-1} \left(\sqrt{g}^2 p_\psi \nabla^i \psi \right)$$

CONSISTENCY CONDITIONS: THE UNIVERSAL LIGHT-CONE

The consistency of the theory requires:

$$(k+1)\sqrt{g}N^{-1}\nabla_i\left(N^2p_\psi\nabla^i\psi\right)\approx 0 \quad \Rightarrow k=-1$$

Euler-Lagrange equations for ψ :

$$\frac{d}{d\tau}\left[\frac{\sqrt{g}}{2N}\left(\frac{d\psi}{d\tau}-\mathcal{L}_N\psi\right)\right]=-\frac{k}{2}\nabla^a(\sqrt{g}N\nabla_a\psi)+\sqrt{g}NU'(\psi)+\mathcal{L}_Np_\psi$$

in a flat, euclidean region $N=1$, $\sqrt{g}=1$ and $N_i=0$:

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{d\tau^2}=-k\psi+U'(\psi)$$

If $k=-1$ reduces to D'Alembert equation with propagation speed 1

$$k=-1 \Rightarrow \text{Local Lorentz Invariance}$$

RELATIVITY WITHOUT RELATIVITY: VECTOR FIELD

A rather generic vector field action depends on three parameters + a potential:

$$\text{Kinetic term: } T_A = g^{ij} \left(\frac{dA_i}{d\tau} - \mathcal{L}_N A_i \right) \left(\frac{dA_j}{d\tau} - \mathcal{L}_N A_j \right)$$

$$\text{Potential term: } V_A = \alpha A_{a;b} A^{a;b} + \beta A_{a;b} A^{b;a} + \gamma A_a{}^{;a} A_b{}^{;b} + U(g^{ab} A_a A_b)$$

Propagation of the constraints:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{H}^i}{d\tau} \approx 0,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathcal{H}}{d\tau} \approx & -2\sqrt{g}N^{-1} \left[(\alpha - 1/4) \left(N^2 p_A^b A_{b;c} \right)^{;c} + (\beta + 1/4) \left(N^2 p_A^b A_{c;b} \right)^{;c} \right] \\ & - 2\sqrt{g}N^{-1} \gamma \left(N^2 p_A^b A_c{}^{;c} \right)_{;b} - \sqrt{g}N^{-1} \left(N^2 p_{A;b}^b A_a \right)^{;a} \end{aligned}$$

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BEST-MATCHING GAUGE TRANSFORMATIONS

Equivariant action.

Add a Lagrange multiplier A_0 to the kinetic term
(Best-Matching wrt gauge transformations)

$$T_A = g^{ij} \left(\frac{dA_i}{d\tau} - \nabla_i A_0 - \mathcal{L}_N A_i \right) \left(\frac{dA_j}{d\tau} - \nabla_j A_0 - \mathcal{L}_N A_j \right), \quad \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta A_0} = \mathcal{G}$$

then, in a Euclidean background, the Euler-Lagrange equations read:

$$\frac{d^2 \vec{A}}{d\tau^2} - \vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{dA_0}{d\tau} \right) + \nabla^2 \vec{A} - \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}) = 0$$

and Gauss' law:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{p}_A = \frac{d}{d\tau} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}) - \nabla^2 A_0 = 0$$

these are Maxwell's equations in terms of the four-potential $\{A_0, \vec{A}\}$.

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YANG-MILLS THEORY

Anderson and Barbour [Class.Quant.Grav. 19 (2002), 3249] showed that N vector fields A^α are forced to have exactly the Yang-Mills couplings:

$$U_A = -\frac{1}{8} \left(A^\alpha_{a;b} - A^\alpha_{b;a} + g_c C^\alpha_{\beta\gamma} A^\beta_a A^\gamma_b \right) \left(A^{a;b}_\alpha - A^{b;a}_\alpha + g_c C_{\alpha\rho\sigma} A^{\rho a} A^{\sigma b} \right)$$

$$T_A = \left(\dot{A}^\alpha_a - \mathcal{L}_N A^\alpha_a - \nabla_a A^\alpha_0 + g_c C^\alpha_{\beta\gamma} A^\beta_a A^\gamma_0 \right) \left(\dot{A}^a_\alpha - \mathcal{L}_N A^a_\alpha - \nabla^a A_{0\alpha} + g_c C_{\alpha\rho\sigma} A^{\rho a} A^\sigma_0 \right)$$

where the structure constants $C^\alpha_{\beta\gamma}$ satisfy Jacobi identity of a Lie group:

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Further generalizations by Ed Anderson:

Strong Gravity case and generalizations thereof [Gen. Rel. Grav. 36, (2004)]

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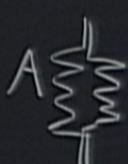
effective actions from nonpert. \mathcal{PI}

onck scale : no $g_{\mu\nu}(x)$, $\delta g_{\mu\nu}(x)$

$$Z_{\text{CDT}}^{\text{eu}}(G_{\text{int}}, N) = \sum_{\text{incompatible}} \frac{1}{C_T}$$

$$S_{\text{eu}}^{\text{Rogge}} = -\left(\frac{1}{k_0}\right) N_2(T) + N_4(T) + \Delta(2N_4^{(4,1)} + N_4^{(3,2)})$$

② "de Sitter phase"



$$V_3(t) \approx a^3(t)$$



$$e^{-S_{\text{eu}}^{\text{eff}}}, S_{\text{eu}}^{\text{eff}} = k \int dt \left(\frac{1}{3} - \lambda \right) \frac{\dot{V}_3^2}{V_3}$$

$$e^{-S^{\text{EH}}(\bar{g}, \omega) + S_{\text{gf}}} \rightarrow \lambda^{\text{eff}} < 1/3 \text{ in QT?}$$

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THE LICHNEROWICZ-YORK EQUATION

J. York solved the initial-value problem of GR [PRL 26-28 (1971-2)]

If $p = Y \sqrt{g}$ Momentum and Hamiltonian constraints decouple:

$$\nabla_i p_{TT}^{ij} = 0, \quad p_{TT}^{ij} p_{ij}^{TT} - \frac{1}{6} Y^2 - g R = 0$$

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...however, without that scaling the solution is not unique!

nique!

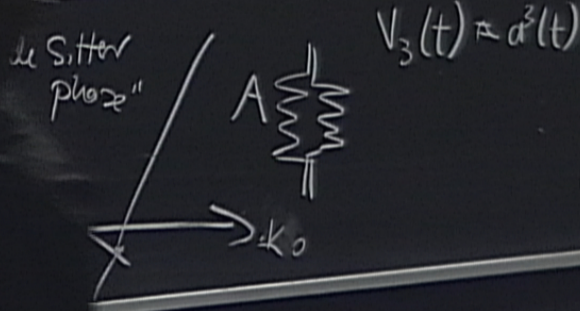
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effective actions from nonpert. \mathcal{PI}

Plan : no $g_{\mu\nu}(x)$, $\delta g_{\mu\nu}(x)$

$$Z_{\text{CDT}}^{\text{eu}}(G_{\text{u}}, \Lambda) = \sum_{\text{infinite comb.}} \frac{1}{C}$$

$$S_{\text{en}}^{\text{Rogge}} = -\left(\frac{1}{K_0}\right) N_2(T) + N_4(T) + \Delta(2N_4^{(4,1)} + N_4^{(3)})$$



$$e^{-S_{\text{en}}^{\text{eff}}}, S_{\text{en}}^{\text{eff}} = K \int dt \left(\frac{1}{3} - \lambda \right) \frac{\dot{V}_3^2}{V_3}$$

$$S_{\text{en}}^{\text{mini}} = K' \int dt \left(\frac{1}{3} - \lambda \right) \frac{\dot{V}_3^2}{V_3}$$

$$-S^{\text{eu}}(\bar{g}, \omega) + S_{\text{gf}}$$

$\lambda^{\text{eff}} < 1/3$ in QT?

CAUTION

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CS+V provides a first-principles derivation of York's scaling: VPCTs.

From the definition of the York time:

$$Y = \langle p \rangle = \frac{\int d^3x g_{ij} p^{ij}}{\int d^3x \sqrt{g}} \rightarrow \frac{\int d^3x g_{ij} p^{ij}}{\int d^3x \phi^6 \sqrt{g}}$$

if $\phi = \text{const}$ then $Y \rightarrow \phi^{-6} Y$.

But if ϕ is a VPCT, then $\int d^3x \phi^6 \sqrt{g} = \int d^3x \sqrt{g}$ and Y is invariant!

[Anderson, Barbour, Foster, Kelleher, Ó Murchadha, CQG 22 (2005)]

The equations of CS+V are:

$$\begin{cases} p - \sqrt{g} \langle p \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \text{CMC condition} \\ p_T^{ij} p_{ij}^T - \frac{1}{6} \hat{\phi}^{12} Y^2 - g \hat{\phi}^8 \left(R - 8 \hat{\phi}^{-1} \nabla^2 \hat{\phi} \right) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Lichnerowicz-York equation} \\ \frac{N}{\hat{\phi}^4} \left(R - 8 \frac{\nabla^2 \hat{\phi}}{\hat{\phi}} \right) - \frac{1}{\hat{\phi}^6} \nabla_i \left(\hat{\phi}^2 \nabla^i N \right) + \frac{Y^2 N}{4} - \langle \cdot \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Lapse-fixing condition} \end{cases}$$

SHAPE DYNAMICS ($\lambda = 1$)

The system of constraints of CS+V is second-class:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{H}}{d\tau} = \frac{N}{\hat{\phi}^4} \left(R - 8 \frac{\nabla^2 \hat{\phi}}{\hat{\phi}} \right) - \frac{1}{\hat{\phi}^6} \nabla_i \left(\hat{\phi}^2 \nabla^i N \right) + \frac{Y^2 N}{4} - \langle \cdot \rangle$$

the rhs cannot be included as a new constraint. It is instead a *gauge-fixing condition*, that ensures that the Lapse N propagates the CMC condition. One can then perform a Dirac procedure, ending up with a first-class theory which is a gauge-fixed version of GR.

The Hamiltonian constraint gets all gauge-fixed by the LFE, apart from a single *global* mode which is still first-class:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{global}} = \int d^3x \tilde{N}(x) \mathcal{H}(x) \text{ where } \tilde{N}(x) \text{ is the (unique!) solution of the LFE.}$$

In [Gomes, Gryb, Koslowski, CQG 28, (2011)] this was the starting point for the definition of a new theory with VPCT gauge invariance, which in a particular gauge coincides with CMC GR.

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...AND WHAT ABOUT λ ?

All the steps of CS+V and Gomes, Gryb and Kosłowski's version of SD go through straightforwardly also if $1/3 < \lambda \leq 1$:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p - \sqrt{g} \langle p \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \text{CMC condition} \\ p_T^{ij} p_{ij}^T - \frac{1}{9\lambda-3} \hat{\phi}^{12} Y^2 - g \hat{\phi}^8 \left(R - 8 \hat{\phi}^{-1} \nabla^2 \hat{\phi} \right) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Lichnerowicz-York equation} \\ \frac{N}{\hat{\phi}^4} \left(R - 8 \frac{\nabla^2 \hat{\phi}}{\hat{\phi}} \right) - \frac{1}{\hat{\phi}^6} \nabla_i \left(\hat{\phi}^2 \nabla^i N \right) + \frac{Y^2 N}{2(3\lambda-1)} - \langle \cdot \rangle \Rightarrow \text{Lapse-fixing condition} \end{array} \right.$$

$\lambda \neq 1$ doesn't affect the propagation speed of gravitational waves:

$$\dot{p}^{ij} = R g^{ij} - R^{ij} - \frac{1}{2} \left(g^{ik} g^{jl} - \frac{\lambda}{3\lambda-1} g^{ij} g^{kl} \right) \dot{g}_{ij} \dot{g}_{kl}, \quad (N \sim 1, \sqrt{g} \sim 1, N_i = 0)$$

expanding $g_{ij} = \delta_{ij} + h_{ij}$ we see that λ enters at $\mathcal{O}(h^2)$.

look at cosmological data to constrain λ ... [N. Ashfordi et al., PRD 75, (2007)]

THE STRANGE CASE OF $\lambda = 1/3$

If $\lambda = 1/3$ the equations are singular, because $\text{tr}(\dot{g}_{ij})$ is cancelled out of the action:

$$T = \left(g^{ac} g^{bd} - \frac{1}{3} g^{ab} g^{cd} \right) \frac{dg_{ab}}{d\tau} \frac{dg_{cd}}{d\tau} = g_{ac} g_{bd} \dot{g}_{ab}^T \dot{g}_{cd}^T, \quad \dot{g}_{ab}^T = \dot{g}_{ab} - \frac{1}{3} g_{ab} \text{tr}(\dot{g})$$

in that case we have an additional primary constraint:

$$\text{tr}(p) = Y = 0 \Rightarrow \text{maximal slicing}$$

and the York time is constantly zero. The Lapse-fixing equation gauge fixes out all of the Hamiltonian constraint. The theory collapses to two equations stating that the momentum is transverse and traceless, and there's no evolution.

This is what happens in the infinite-volume fixed points of Shape Dynamics:
[Gomes, Gryb, Koslowski, FM, arXiv:1105.0938]