

Title: General Relativity for Cosmology - Lecture 16

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Collection: General Relativity for Cosmology (Kempf)

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On $T^{\mu\nu}$, continued:

Recall: $\square$ We defined $T^{\mu\nu}$ as that tensor which obeys for all $\delta g_{\mu\nu}(\lambda, x)$:

$$\frac{dS'}{d\lambda}\bigg|_{\lambda=0} = \frac{1}{2} \int_B T^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu} T_g d^4x$$

$= \frac{dg_{\mu\nu}(\lambda, x)}{d\lambda}\bigg|_{\lambda=0}$

(we choose $T^{\mu\nu}$ symmetric because $g_{\mu\nu}$ is symmetric)

$\square$ The above is meant when writing:

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{V_g} \frac{\delta}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} S$$

$\square$ We found that $T^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0$ always holds.

(Since is consequence of diffeomorphism invariance)

However: $\square T^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0$ is not conservation law!

Why? $T^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} V_j$ is not a divergence, unlike $K^{\mu}_{;\mu} V_j = \text{div}_\Omega K$

Except: if space-time possesses isometries, i.e., covariant so-called Killing fields, ξ , i.e., fields obeying:

$$L_\xi g = 0, \text{ i.e., } \xi_{\mu;\nu} = -\xi_{\nu;\mu}$$

Because then: $P^\mu := T^{\mu\nu} \xi_\nu$ obeys $P^\mu_{;\mu} = 0$

$$\text{Thus: } \int_B \underbrace{P^\mu_{;\mu} V_j d^4x}_{\text{div}_\Omega P = d i_P \Omega} \stackrel{\text{Stokes (Gauss)}}{=} \int_{\partial B} \underbrace{i_P \Omega}_{\text{a conservation law}} = 0$$

Proposition: maximal number of indep. Killing vector fields on spacetime: 10

Actual spacetime has no Killing vector fields, but realistic simplified models of parts or all of spacetime often do:

Definition: A space-time (M, g) is called "stationary" if it possesses energy conservation, i.e., if it possesses a time-like Killing vector field, i.e., if it possesses a field ξ which obeys:

$$L_{\xi}g = 0 \text{ and } \xi^{\mu}\xi_{\mu} = g(\xi, \xi) < 0$$

Recall: if
 $= 0$ would be called
 "null" or light-like
 > 0 would be called
 space-like

→ Since ξ is timelike, observers can travel along the integral curves of ξ and set up a coordinate system with their own-time as the time coordinate.

In such a "Comoving coordinate system": $\xi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

⇒ $0 = L_{\xi}g = \xi^{\alpha}g_{\mu\nu,\alpha} + g_{\mu\nu}\xi^{\alpha}_{,\mu} + g_{\mu\nu}\xi^{\alpha}_{,\nu}$ becomes:

$$0 = g_{\mu\nu,0} = \partial_t g_{\mu\nu} \text{ , i.e.: } g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \text{constant in time.}$$

⇒ In static spacetimes, one can find a (so-called comoving) coordinate system, in which:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^0} g_{\mu\nu}(x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) = 0$$

⇒ Comoving observers, i.e., those observers who travel the flow generated by ξ , see no change in the prevailing local curvature.

□ However: Stationarity does not imply that there is a cds in which

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} g_{00} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \times & & \\ 0 & & \times & \\ 0 & & & \times \end{pmatrix} \quad (\times)$$

Example: The g of a stationary black hole that is rotating, given by the "Kerr metric".

Definition: A space-time is called "static", if the time-like Killing field ξ , viewed as a 1-form,

$$\xi = \xi_\mu dx^\mu$$

also obeys the "Frobenius condition":

$$\xi \wedge d\xi = 0 \quad (\text{F})$$

[↑] Exercise: write it out in coordinates

Significance? (F) holds $\Leftrightarrow g = \begin{pmatrix} g_{00} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \text{(\text{X})} \\ 0 & & & \end{pmatrix}$ in suitable cds.

- o If, in a suitable coordinate system, g is of the form (X) and the time-like ξ is $\xi = g_{00} dt$, then $\xi \wedge d\xi = 0$ trivially.
- o One can also show that, conversely, (F) implies existence of cds in which (X) holds.

Generic properties of $T^{\mu\nu}$:

□ $T^{\mu\nu}$ has contributions from known and also from as yet unknown matter fields (e.g., from dark matter).

□ Thus, in order to draw generic conclusions about, e.g.,

a.) the occurrence of singularities, or (Note: black hole formation stops energy dropping)

b.) the overall positivity of the energy (despite universal attraction!)

one needs plausible conjectures about the full $T_{\mu\nu}$:

The "weak energy condition":

$$T_{\mu\nu} v^\mu v^\nu \geq 0 \quad \text{for all timelike } v: g(v,v) < 0$$

Why assume it?

(by continuity it then also holds for lightlike v)

(Note: Negative energy would be anti-gravitating i.e. repulsive.)



All observers travel with a time-like tangent v .

They then see a positive local energy density: $T_{\mu\nu} v^\mu v^\nu \geq 0$

The "dominant energy condition":

$T_{\mu\nu} v^\mu v^\nu \geq 0$ for all timelike v (i.e., weak energy condition)

and

$K_\mu := T_{\mu\nu} v^\nu$ obeys $K_\mu K^\mu \leq 0$ (i.e., $T_{\mu\nu} v^\nu$ is non-space-like)

Why assume it?

□ The local energy-momentum flow vector, K , may not be conserved but should be non-space-like:
"All flow should be into the future."

□ In an orthonormal basis, the dominant energy condition takes the form:

$$T^{00} \geq |T^{ab}|$$

i.e. "energy dominates over momentum."

(Note: This is all intuition from fluid mechanics analogy. Quantum fields may or may not behave this way.)

The dynamics of space-time!

▮ Consider the full matter action:

$$S[g, \psi] = \int_M L(g, \psi) \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

all matter fields: e^- , photons, quarks, gluons etc.

▮ The equations of motion of matter fields are

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \psi_{(i)}^{a\dots b}{}_{c\dots d}} = 0$$

i.e.:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \psi_{(i)}^{a\dots b}{}_{c\dots d}} = \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \psi_{(i)}^{a\dots b}{}_{c\dots d;j}} \right)_{;j}$$

□ Do we obtain suitable equations of motion for $g_{\mu\nu}$ by setting

$$\frac{\delta S'}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = 0 \quad ?$$

Apparently not, because it would mean:

$$\frac{\delta S'}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = \frac{1}{2} T^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g} = 0 !$$

Thus, the universe would have to be empty of matter (assuming all matter has positive energy).

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The quantum effects of matter induce suitable extra terms in the action!

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Sakharov's reasoning: (modernized version)

□ Classical deterministic evolution of matter obeys:

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Sakharov's reasoning: (modernized version)

- Classical deterministic evolution of matter obeys:

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \Psi_{(i)}} = 0$$

- But quantum theory allows every evolution $\Psi_{(i)}(x,t)$ to happen "virtually", with probability amplitudes:

$$\text{prob. ampl.} [\Psi_{(i)}] = N e^{\frac{iS'[\Psi]}{\hbar}}$$

a normalization constant,

- As usual in quantum theory, the actual or "effective" matter evolution $\langle \Psi_{(i)}(x,t) \rangle$ is close

to but not identical to the classical matter evolution $\Psi_{cl}(x,t)$.

Why? Path integral picture: The field evolutions with close-to-extremal actions have very similar values $e^{\frac{iS}{\hbar}}$ because for them $\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \approx 0$ i.e. their prob. amplitudes add up. Other matter evolutions $\Psi_{cl}(x,t)$ have widely different $e^{\frac{iS}{\hbar}}$, so their probabilities average another away.

Heisenberg picture: The (field) operators obey formally the same eqns of motion as do the classical fields. Because of the commutation (and uncertainty) relations, however, the (field) operator expectation values generally do not obey the classical eqns of motion.

□ Thus, the effective quantum fields obey equations of motion that are somewhat modified!

⇒ Aim: Calculate the "effective action"

$$S_{\text{eff}}[g, \psi]$$

which yields the effective evolution of matter fields when matter quantum effects are taken into account.

□ Problems:

○ These calculations are very difficult.

⇒ Use perturbative methods.

There occur integrals that are divergent at short distances.

$\Rightarrow$ Introduce a cutoff at some minimum length $\underline{l_c}$ (or maximum momentum $\frac{\pi}{l_c}$).

But as always in quantum theory, the effective action will contain terms of all possible forms that are consistent with the symmetries of the theory i.e. here with general covariance (i.e. that are scalars):

The only question is which prefactors these terms will have. $\rightarrow$

$$S_{\text{eff}}[g, \psi] = \int_M \left(\overset{\text{matter}}{L} + \overset{\text{matter}}{L} + \overset{\text{quantum effects}}{L} + c_1 + c_2 R + c_3 \mathcal{O}(R^2) \right) \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

quantum "vacuum energy" of matter

this is the local change of the vacuum energy due to curvature deforming the quantum harmonic oscillators of the field modes.

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□ The constants c_1, c_2 etc depend on:

- the details of the matter action L^{matter} .
(Bosons and Fermions tend to contribute with opposite signs)
- the order of perturbation

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- the order of perturbation
- the value of the short-distance cut off:

(The λ_i are unitless numbers that are roughly of order one, depending on the precise matter Lagrangian)

$$c_1 = \lambda_1 l_c^{-4} \quad (\text{must make up for } [\text{length}]^4 \text{ from } d^4x)$$

$$c_2 = \lambda_2 l_c^{-2} \quad (\text{because } R \text{ has units } [\text{length}]^{-2})$$

$$c_3 = \lambda_3 l_c^0 \quad (\text{terms } R^2 \text{ or } R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} \text{ etc have units } [\text{length}]^{-4})$$

$$c_4 = \lambda_4 l_c^2 \quad (\text{higher powers in } R \text{ have prefactors } \sim l_c^{\text{positive power}})$$

□ $\Rightarrow$ For small l_c , we have:

$$c_1 \gg c_2 \gg c_3 \gg c_4 \gg \dots$$

at short distances.

$\Rightarrow$ Introduce a cutoff at some minimum length $\underline{l_c}$ (or maximum momentum $\frac{\pi}{l_c}$).

□ But as always in quantum theory, the effective action will contain terms of all possible forms that are consistent with the symmetries of the theory i.e. here with general covariance (i.e. that are scalars):

The only question is which prefactors these terms will have. $\rightarrow$

$$S_{\text{eff}}[g, \psi] = \int_M \left(\overset{\text{matter}}{L} + \overset{\text{matter}}{L}_{\text{quantum effects}} + \overset{\text{quantum "vacuum energy" of matter}}{c_1 + c_2 R + c_3 \mathcal{O}(R^2)} \right) \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

$\uparrow$
this is the local change of the vacuum energy due to curvature deforming the quantum harmonic oscillators of the field modes.

□ Consider the lowest order terms:

$$S_g[g, \psi] = \int_M (L + c_1 + c_2 R) \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

$\nwarrow$ total effective matter Lagrangian
 $\uparrow$ Einstein action
 $\uparrow$ cosmological constant

and postulate now that the equations of motion for the metric follow from the action principle:

$$\frac{\delta S_g[g, \psi]}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = 0$$

□ Einstein had postulated the same action principle!

We note that:

Every (effective) quantum field theory with minimum length induces Einstein gravity.

See, e.g., review: [gr-qc/0204062](#)

The equations of motion for g :

The action principle, $\frac{\delta S_{\text{eff}}}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = 0$, yields:

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \int_B (c_1 + c_2 R_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu}) \sqrt{g} d^4x = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{g} T^{\mu\nu}$$

in principle, it is
the effective quantum
expectation value

Evaluate the left hand side:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a.) } \delta \int_B c_1 \sqrt{g} d^4x &= \int_B c_1 \frac{\delta \sqrt{g}}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \delta g_{\mu\nu} d^4x \\ &= \int_B c_1 \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g} \delta g_{\mu\nu} d^4x \end{aligned}$$

recall: $= \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g}$

vanish at origin because $\Gamma=0$

Thus:

$$\delta R_{\mu\nu} = (\delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda})_{;\lambda} - (\delta \Gamma_{\mu\lambda}^{\lambda})_{;\nu}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} &= g^{\mu\nu} (\delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda})_{;\lambda} - g^{\mu\nu} (\delta \Gamma_{\mu\lambda}^{\lambda})_{;\nu} \\ &= w^{\lambda}_{;\lambda} \quad \text{for } w^{\lambda} = g^{\mu\nu} \delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda} - g^{\mu\lambda} \delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\nu} \end{aligned}$$

recall: $g^{\mu\nu}_{;\alpha} = 0$ here.

Thus, in arbitrary coordinate system:

$$g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} = w^{\lambda}_{;\lambda}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int c_2 g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g} d^4x = \int w^{\lambda}_{;\lambda} \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

$$\Rightarrow g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} (\delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda})_{;\lambda} - g^{\mu\nu} (\delta \Gamma_{\mu\lambda}^{\lambda})_{;\nu}$$

$$= w^{\lambda}_{;\lambda} \quad \text{for } w^{\lambda} = g^{\mu\nu} \delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda} - g^{\mu\lambda} \delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\nu}$$

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Thus, in arbitrary coordinate system:

$$g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} = w^{\lambda}_{;\lambda}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_B c_2 g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g} d^4x = \int_B w^{\lambda}_{;\lambda} \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

$$= \int_B \text{div}_w \Omega$$

Grav

$$= \int_{\partial B} i_w \Omega$$

$$= 0$$

$= 0$ on ∂B , assuming
 $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$ and $\delta g_{\mu\nu;s} = 0$
on ∂B .

c.) Evaluate term II:

$$\int_B c_2 R_{\mu\nu} \delta(g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g}) d^4x = ?$$

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g}) &= (\delta g^{\mu\nu}) \sqrt{g} + g^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial \sqrt{g}}{\partial g_{ab}} \delta g_{ab} \\ &= -g^{\mu a} g^{\nu b} \delta g_{ab} \sqrt{g} + g^{\mu\nu} \frac{1}{2} g^{ab} \sqrt{g} \delta g_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\int_B c_2 R_{\mu\nu} \delta(g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{g}) d^4x = - \int_B c_2 \left(+R^{ab} - \frac{1}{2} g^{ab} R \right) \sqrt{g} \delta g_{ab} d^4x$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{recall: } = G^{ab}} \quad \text{"Einstein tensor"}$

Bringing together a) + b) + c) $\Rightarrow$

$$\delta \int_B (c_1 + c_2 R_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu}) \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

$$= \int_B \underbrace{\left(c_1 \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} - c_2 G^{\mu\nu} \right)}_{\text{symmetric}} \sqrt{g} \delta g_{\mu\nu} d^4x$$

as in the case of the $T^{\mu\nu}$ calculation,
one could add an antisymmetric part
here and it would drop from the integrand.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \int_B (c_1 + c_2 R_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu}) \sqrt{g} d^4x$$

$$= \left(c_1 \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} - c_2 G^{\mu\nu} \right) \sqrt{g}$$

(up to anti-sym.
components, which
we set to zero)

Remark: Choosing to add an antisymmetric
part would make $G^{\mu\nu}$ and $R^{\mu\nu}$ non-
symmetric, in violation of $g_{\mu\nu} = 0$.

Finally, we conclude:

$$\frac{\delta S'}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = 0$$

leads to this equation of motion for g :

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} c_1 g^{\mu\nu} - c_2 G^{\mu\nu} \right) \sqrt{g} = - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{g} T^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\text{i.e.:} \quad R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} R - \frac{c_1}{2c_2} g^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2c_2} T^{\mu\nu}$$

As is well-known, comparison with experiment requires:

$$c_2 = \frac{1}{16\pi G}$$

↑ Newton's constant.

$\Rightarrow$ Einstein equation:

(Notice: the "reduced Bianchi identity" $(R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}R)_{;\nu} = 0$ now is equivalent to the statement $T^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0$)

(Notice: The symmetry of $R^{\mu\nu}$ (due to $g_{\mu\nu}$ is symmetric) enforces the symmetry of $T^{\mu\nu}$.)

$$R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}R - \underbrace{8\pi G c_1}_{\Lambda \text{ "cosmol. constant"}} g^{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T^{\mu\nu}$$

What is Λ ?

Recall: The λ_i are constants prefactor of order one which depends on the matter Lagrangian.

□ First find l_c :

(I.e. also: $G \approx l_c^{-2}$, which we'll need on the next slide)

Given that $\frac{1}{16\pi G} = c_2 = \lambda_2 l_c^{-2}$

we obtain:

$$l_c = \lambda_2 \sqrt{16\pi G} = \sqrt{16\pi \frac{1}{c_2}}$$

$$= \lambda_2 \cdot 4\sqrt{\pi} \cdot 1.616 \times 10^{-35} \text{ m}$$

the "Planck length"

Recall: The λ_i are some numbers of order $O(1)$, depending on details which sort of particles are in the matter action, and their quantum effects

We note, therefore: When quantum field theories are cut off at about the Planck length they induce gravity with the correct eqns of motion and coupling strength!

□ Now find c_1 :

Given that $l_c \approx 10^{-35} \text{ m}$, quantum field theories generate a value of c_1 , i.e., a cosmological constant of about:

$$c_1 = \lambda_1 l_c^{-4}$$

$\uparrow$
of $\mathcal{O}(1)$

□ Finally, find Λ :

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda_{\text{theory}} &= -8\pi G c_1 = -8\pi G \lambda_1 l_c^{-4} \\ &\approx G l_c^{-4} \approx l_c^{-2} \quad (\text{using } \lambda_1 \approx 1 \text{ and } G \approx l_c^2) \\ &\approx 10^{70} \text{ m}^{-2}\end{aligned}$$

This is the worst physical prediction ever:

□ Experiment:

Based on cosmic microwave background data and on supernova brightness versus redshift data:

$$\Lambda_{\text{experiment}} \approx 10^{-52} \text{ m}^{-2} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \frac{\Lambda_{\text{th}}}{\Lambda_{\text{exp}}} \approx 10^{122}$$

→ For some unknown reason, the constant part, c_1 , of the vacuum energy of quantum field theory does essentially not gravitate - while its disturbance through curvature, $c_2 R$, is real: it induces regular gravity.

□ The constants c_1, c_2 etc depend on:

- the details of the matter action L^{matter} .
(Bosons and Fermions tend to contribute with opposite signs)
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