

# LECTURE 16: GRAVITY

①

Let's review Newtonian Gravity, for  $M$  at origin, the mass  $m$  has

$$\vec{F} = -\frac{GmM}{r^2} \hat{r} = m\vec{a} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \vec{a} = -\frac{GM}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

The gravitational potential  $\Phi$  is related by  $\vec{E} = -\nabla\Phi$

$$\text{Then } -\frac{GM}{r^2} \hat{r} = -\nabla\Phi \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial r} = \frac{GM}{r^2} \quad \therefore \quad \Phi = \Phi_0 - \frac{GM}{r}$$

Near surface of Earth,  $r = R_E + h$  where  $h = \text{altitude}$  then,

$$\Phi(R_E + h) = \Phi(R_E) + \Phi'(R_E)h + \frac{1}{2}\Phi''(R_E)h^2 + \dots$$

$$\Phi(R_E + h) = \frac{GM}{R_E^2}h - \frac{2GM}{R_E^3}h^2 + \dots \quad (\text{setting } \Phi(R_E) = 0)$$

Here  $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$  and  $R_E = 6.3781 \times 10^6 \text{m}$

and  $M = 5.972 \times 10^{24} \text{kg}$  then calculate  $\frac{GM}{R_E^2} = 9.798 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \approx 9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} = "g"$

Therefore,  $\Phi(R_E + h) \approx gh$  and PE for  $m$  is  $PE \approx mgh$ .

$$\int_{S_R} \vec{a} \cdot d\vec{S} = - \int_{S_R} \left( \frac{GM}{r^2} \hat{r} \right) \cdot (R^2 d\Omega \hat{r}) = - \int_{S_R} \frac{GM}{R^2} \cdot R^2 d\Omega = -4\pi GM = -4\pi G \int_{B_R} \rho d^3V$$

$$= - \int_{B_R} \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{GM}{r^2} \hat{r} \right) d^3V = - \int_{B_R} (\nabla \cdot \nabla\Phi) d^3V \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\nabla^2\Phi = 4\pi G\rho}$$

(I think,  $\rho = M\delta(\vec{r})$  for point mass at origin.)

(2)

$$\Phi = -\frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\nabla\Phi = -\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{GM}{r} \right) \hat{r} = \frac{GM}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

DIRAC DELTA  
IN 3D

$$\nabla^2\Phi = \nabla \cdot \nabla\Phi = GM \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = GM (4\pi\delta(\vec{r}))$$

$\therefore \nabla^2\Phi = 4\pi G\rho$  where  $\rho = M\delta(\vec{r})$  for point mass at  $\vec{r}=0$ .

### Electrostatics?

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{E} = -\nabla\Phi$$

Gauss' Law  $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$

where  $\rho = \frac{dQ}{dV}$  = charge density

$$\nabla \cdot (-\nabla\Phi) = \rho/\epsilon_0$$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2\Phi = -\rho/\epsilon_0}$$

Poisson's Eq. of Electrostatics.

Coulomb's Law  $\vec{F} = \frac{qQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}$

$\hookrightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q} = kQ \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$  with  $k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$

So Poisson's Eq. is also

$$\boxed{\nabla^2\Phi = -4\pi k\rho}$$

(difference in sign due to fact gravity is attractive)

How to find the law of gravity... minimal-coupling principle

③

- 1.) Take a law of physics, valid in an inertial coordinate system in flat spacetime
- 2.) Write the law in coordinate invariant form (with tensors)
- 3.) Assert the resulting law holds in curved spacetime  
by replacing  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$  with  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and  $\partial_\nu$  with  $\nabla_\nu$

Example: free-falling, unaccelerated particle

$$\frac{d^2 X^\mu}{d\lambda^2} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda} \left( \frac{d}{d\lambda} (X^\mu) \right) = 0$$
$$\frac{dX^\nu}{d\lambda} \partial_\nu \frac{dX^\mu}{d\lambda} = 0$$

chain-rule,  
now stated  
in manifestly  
tensorial  
fashion.

Replace  $\partial_\nu$  with  $\nabla_\nu = \partial_\nu + \Gamma_{\dots}^{\dots}$

$$\frac{dX^\nu}{d\lambda} \nabla_\nu \frac{dX^\mu}{d\lambda} = \frac{dX^\nu}{d\lambda} \left[ \partial_\nu \frac{dX^\mu}{d\lambda} + \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\mu \frac{dX^\lambda}{d\lambda} \right]$$
$$0 = \frac{d^2 X^\mu}{d\lambda^2} + \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\mu \frac{dX^\nu}{d\lambda} \frac{dX^\rho}{d\lambda}$$

(In G.R. free particles follow geodesics)

# Motivating Equations of GR from Newtonian Limit

(4)

Moving slowly  $\frac{dx^i}{dt} \ll \frac{dt}{dt}$ , weak field  $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} \ll 1$  and the gravitational field is static (no time dependence for  $g_{\mu\nu}$ )  
 In this context, study geodesic eq.?

$$\frac{d^2 x^\mu}{dt^2} + \Gamma_{00}^\mu \left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2 = 0$$

(other terms small in comparison  $\frac{dx^i}{dt} \ll \frac{dt}{dt}$ )

$$\Gamma_{00}^\mu = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\lambda} (\partial_0 g_{\lambda 0} + \partial_0 g_{0\lambda} - \partial_\lambda g_{00}) = -\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\lambda} \partial_\lambda g_{00}$$

Since  $g^{\mu\nu} g_{\nu\sigma} = \delta_\sigma^\mu$  we can approximate  $g^{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\mu\nu} - h^{\mu\nu}$

as  $(\eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu})(\eta^{\nu\sigma} - h^{\nu\sigma}) = \eta_{\mu\nu} \eta^{\nu\sigma} - \eta_{\mu\nu} h^{\nu\sigma} + h_{\mu\nu} \eta^{\nu\sigma} - h_{\mu\nu} h^{\nu\sigma} \approx \delta_\mu^\sigma$

Continuing,

$$\frac{d^2 x^\mu}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\lambda} \partial_\lambda g_{00} \left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} = 0 \quad \text{since } \partial_0 h_{00} = 0$$

these cancel to 1<sup>st</sup> order in  $h_{00}$   
 $h^{\nu\sigma} = \eta^{\nu\sigma} \eta^{\rho\sigma} h_{\rho\sigma}$

$$\frac{1}{\left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2} \frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_i h_{00}$$

Also,  $\frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} g^{ij} \partial_j (g_{00}) \left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_i h_{00}$$

$$(*) \quad \frac{d^2 X^i}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{dX^i}{dt} \right] = \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{dT}{dt} \frac{dX^i}{dT} \right] = \frac{dT}{dt} \frac{d}{dT} \left[ \frac{dX^i}{dT} \right] = \frac{dT}{dt} \frac{dT}{dT} \frac{d^2 X^i}{dT^2}$$

using  $\frac{dT}{dt} = 0$

We've shown,

$$\frac{d^2 X^i}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_i h_{00} \quad \text{compare to } \vec{a} = -\nabla \Phi \Rightarrow \underline{h_{00} = -2\Phi}.$$

$$\therefore g_{00} = \eta_{00} + h_{00}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{g_{00} = -1 - 2\Phi}.$$

### Einstein's Equation

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu} \quad (?)$$

well, since  $\nabla^\mu T_{\mu\nu} = 0$  from conservation of momentum/energy we'd have  $\nabla^\mu R_{\mu\nu} = 0$  which is too limiting... note that  $\nabla^\mu R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\nu R$

Thus  $R = \kappa g^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T \Rightarrow \nabla_\nu T = 0 \Rightarrow T$  constant throughout space time. (Physically absurd)

Instead, try  $G_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$  where  $G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu}$

Symmetric, conserved tensor

Next, we need to fix  $\kappa$  by examining the Newtonian limit,  $\curvearrowright$

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \mathbb{R} T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = \mathbb{R} T_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g^{\mu\nu} g_{\mu\nu} = \mathbb{R} g^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$R - \frac{1}{2} R (4) = \mathbb{R} T$$

$$\therefore -R = \mathbb{R} T \rightarrow \underline{R = -\mathbb{R} T}^*$$

From \*,

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} + \mathbb{R} T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\boxed{R_{\mu\nu} = \mathbb{R} (T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} T)}$$

Remark: in the absence of matter/energy  $T_{\mu\nu} = 0$  and  $T = 0$   
thus  $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$ , so space is flat away from matter/energy.  
 (here I'm not taking cosmological considerations into account...)

Problem: determine value of  $\mathbb{R}$  from examining weak field Newtonian limit.

Consider perfect-fluid source of energy-momentum where  $U^{\mu}$  fluid 4-velocity

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p) U_{\mu} U_{\nu} + p g_{\mu\nu}$$

We can neglect pressure for Newtonian limit, we're just looking at dust

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \rho U_{\mu} U_{\nu}$$

in rest frame we have  $U^{\mu} = (U^0, 0, 0, 0)$  and  $g_{\mu\nu} U^{\mu} U^{\nu} = -1$

as before  $g_{00} = -1 + h_{00}$

$$g^{00} = -1 - h_{00} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} g_{00} U^0 U^0 = (-1 + h_{00}) U^0 U^0 = -1 \\ g^{00} U^0 U^0 = (-1 - h_{00}) U^0 U^0 = -1 \end{array}$$

ok, so Carroll claims  $U^0 = 1$  &  $U_0 = -1$  in for the approx. considered.

confining, since  $U_0 = -1$  and  $U_i = 0$  for  $i=1,2,3$

(ALL OF THIS IS NEWTONIAN LIMIT)

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$$T_{\mu\nu} = \rho U_\mu U_\nu = \begin{cases} \rho & \mu=\nu=0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

in the Newtonian limit  $T_{00} = \rho$  is much larger than other components.

$$T = g^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu} = g^{00} T_{00} = (-1 - h_{00}) \rho \approx -\rho$$

Then we obtain: (here  $h_{00}$  small in contrast to rest energy  $\rho$ )

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \mathbb{R} (T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} T) \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_{00} &= \mathbb{R} (T_{00} - \frac{1}{2} g_{00} T) \\ &= \mathbb{R} (\rho - \frac{1}{2} (-1) (-\rho)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{R} \rho \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, to connect back to the metric recall,

$$R_{00} = R^\lambda{}_{0\lambda 0} = R^i{}_{0i0} \quad \text{since } R^0{}_{000} = 0$$

Consider,

$$R^i{}_{0j0} = \partial_j \Gamma_{00}^i - \partial_0 \Gamma_{j0}^i + \Gamma_{j\lambda}^i \Gamma_{00}^\lambda - \Gamma_{0\lambda}^i \Gamma_{j0}^\lambda$$

Hence, all we need to examine is the 1<sup>st</sup> term

ignore, looking at static limit

also ignore since these are 2<sup>nd</sup> order in the metric since  $\Gamma$  is 1<sup>st</sup> order in metric

$$R_{00} = R^i{}_{0i0}$$

① We had  $\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho$

$$= \partial_i \left[ \frac{1}{2} g^{ik} (\partial_0 g_{k0} + \partial_0 g_{0k} - \partial_k g_{00}) \right]$$

⑤  $h_{00} = -2\Phi$

$$\nabla^2 (-2\Phi) = -8\pi G \rho = -\mathbb{R} \rho$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \delta^{ij} \partial_i \partial_j h_{00}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 h_{00}$$

$$\therefore \mathbb{R} = 8\pi G$$

Def<sup>n</sup>/ Einstein's Equation for general relativity

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$

You can derive  $R = -8\pi G$  from the trace of the eq<sup>n</sup> above, so we can rewrite Einstein's Eq<sup>n</sup> as

$$R_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G (T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} T g_{\mu\nu})$$

(we said this before using  $\square$  instead of  $8\pi G$ .)

## Lagrangian Formulation

$$\text{Hilbert action } S_H = \int \sqrt{-g} R d^n x$$

study variation of action under small variations of the metric  
since  $g^{\mu\lambda} g_{\lambda\nu} = \delta^\mu_\nu \Rightarrow \delta g_{\mu\nu} = -g_{\mu\rho} g_{\nu\sigma} \delta g^{\rho\sigma}$  it suffices to study variation w.r.t. inverse metric. Note  $R = g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu}$

$$\delta S_H = \int d^n x \left( \underbrace{\sqrt{-g}}_{(1)} g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu} + \underbrace{\sqrt{-g}}_{(2)} R_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\mu\nu} + \underbrace{R \delta \sqrt{-g}}_{(3)} \right)$$

... Hilbert saw...  
only independent scalar constructed from the metric which is no higher than 2<sup>nd</sup> order in its derivatives is the Ricci scalar

Let's go through Carroll's Variational argument

⑨

$$\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho} \mapsto \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho} + \delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho} \rightarrow \delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho}$$

is difference of connections  
hence a tensor...  
so we can  $\nabla_{\rho}$

$$\nabla_{\lambda} (\delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho}) = \partial_{\lambda} (\delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho}) + \Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^{\rho} \delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\sigma} - \Gamma_{\lambda\nu}^{\sigma} \delta\Gamma_{\sigma\rho}^{\rho} - \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^{\sigma} \delta\Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^{\rho}$$

$$\rightarrow \delta R^{\rho}{}_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{\lambda} (\delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho}) - \nabla_{\nu} (\delta\Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^{\rho})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (\delta S)_1 &= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\nu} [\nabla_{\lambda} (\delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho}) - \nabla_{\nu} (\delta\Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^{\rho})] \\ &= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \nabla_{\sigma} [g^{\mu\nu} (\delta\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\rho}) - g^{\mu\sigma} (\delta\Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^{\rho})] \end{aligned}$$

But,  $\delta\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} = -\frac{1}{2} [g_{\lambda\rho} \nabla_{\nu} (\delta g^{\lambda\sigma}) + g_{\lambda\nu} \nabla_{\rho} (\delta g^{\lambda\sigma}) - g_{\mu\alpha} g_{\nu\rho} \nabla^{\sigma} (\delta g^{\alpha\rho})]$   
which simplifies  $(\delta S)_1$  further,

$$(\delta S)_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \nabla_{\sigma} [g_{\mu\nu} \nabla^{\sigma} (\delta g^{\mu\nu}) - \nabla_{\lambda} (\delta g^{\sigma\lambda})]$$

... and... This integrates to zero... so let's turn to  $(\delta S)_2$  term  $\rightarrow$

MATRIX IDENTITY:  $\ln(\det M) = \text{trace}(\ln M)$  where  $\exp(\ln M) = M$

implicitly defines  $\ln M$ .

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$$\Rightarrow \delta(\ln(\det M)) = \delta(\text{trace}(\ln M))$$

↙ linearity of trace  
& cyclicity of trace

$$\frac{1}{\det M} \delta(\det M) = \text{Tr}(M^{-1} \delta M)$$

Let  $M = (g_{\mu\nu})$  then  $\det(M) = g$  and,

$$\delta g = g \text{Tr}(M^{-1} \delta M) = g (g^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu}) = -g (g_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\mu\nu})$$

$$\delta \sqrt{-g} = \frac{-1}{2\sqrt{-g}} \delta g = \frac{g}{2\sqrt{-g}} g_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\mu\nu}$$

In summary,

$$\delta S_H = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} \right] \delta g^{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow \underbrace{R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{Einstein's } E_{\mu\nu}^2 \text{ in vacuum form}} = 0$$

Next, add matter,

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} S_H + S_M$$
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_H}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \left( R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} \right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_M}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} = 0$$

So, define  $T_{\mu\nu} = -2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_M}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}$  and obtain  $\boxed{R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}}$

# Scalar Fields and General Relativity

The equation of motion for scalar field  $\phi$  subject potential  $V$  is

$$\square \phi - \frac{dV}{d\phi} = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad \square = \nabla^\mu \nabla_\mu = g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \quad (\text{see p. 160 of Carroll})$$

The energy/momentum tensor for the scalar field is derived (p. 164) to be

$$T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) = \nabla_\mu \phi \nabla_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma} \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\sigma \phi - g_{\mu\nu} V(\phi)$$

← gravitational scalar  
 ← pure matter

Scalar-tensor theories are modified theories of GR where  $S' = S'_{GR} + S'_\lambda + S'_m$

$$G_{\mu\nu} = f^{-1}(\lambda) \left( \frac{1}{2} T_{\mu\nu}^{(m)} + \frac{1}{2} T_{\mu\nu}^{(\lambda)} + \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu f - g_{\mu\nu} \square f \right)$$

← modified Einstein Eq<sup>s</sup>  
 tend to arise from  
 string theoretic  
 derivations of G.R.

Other alternative theories involve:

- extra spatial dimensions (Kaluza Klein theory etc...)
- higher-order terms in action
- non-Christoffel connections (nontrivial torsion etc...)

COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT (introduced by Einstein to create static cosmology, then fell out of favor for decades, only to be revived around the time I was in graduate school in physics  $\approx$  2001

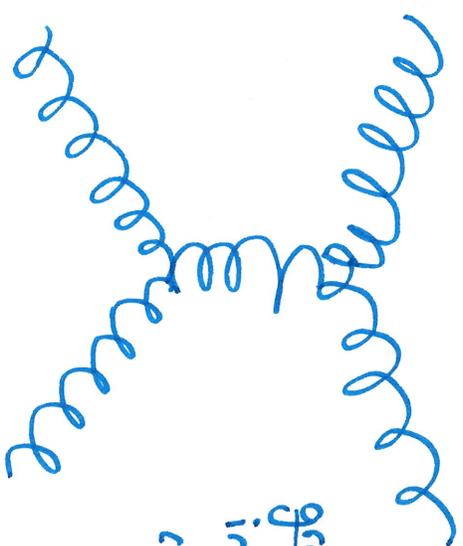
$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$

As I understand it, the source of  $\Lambda$  is likely derived from some yet unknown speculative high energy physics. (But,  $\Lambda \neq 0$  or  $\Lambda = 0$  is perhaps within the scope of observational astronomy...)

# PROPERTIES OF EINSTEIN'S EQUATION

(There is much more in Carroll, I'm picking the big points)

- Gravitation is non linear:



gravitons interact with gravitons  
in contrast with EM's force  
carrying particles the PHOTON

- Raychaudhuri's Equation (covered in Appendix F)

$$\text{reduces to } \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -4\pi G (\rho + P_x + P_y + P_z) \text{ which}$$

leads J.C. Gaez to state: "The expansion of the volume of any set of particles initially at rest is proportional to (minus) the sum of the energy density and the three components of pressure"

- Einstein's Equations are nonlinear PDE's which are constrained by certain relations (1<sup>st</sup> order DE's) between Weyl tensor and the given stress-energy tensor... Moreover, various energy conditions (§4.6) are sometimes assumed to obtain physically reasonable solutions... (Carroll gives summary of some terminology §4.6)