

# 1. Summary of General Relativity I

The general relativity of Albert Einstein is up to now the established theory of gravity.

## 1.1 Gravity Theory Before General Relativity:

- First gravity theory stems from Isaac Newton
- published in 1687 in book "Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica" (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy)
- Based on concept of absolute space and time

- Newton gravitational potential:

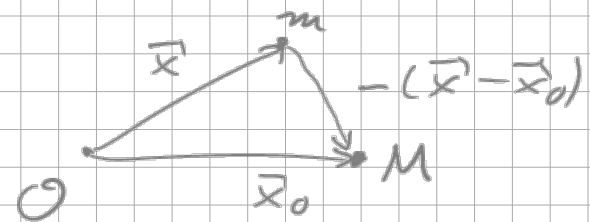
$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = -G \frac{M \leftarrow \text{origin of gravity}}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0|}$$

$$\vec{F}(\vec{x}) = - \underbrace{m}_{\text{test mass}} \text{grad} \Phi(\vec{x}) = - \frac{GMm}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0|^2} \frac{\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0|}$$

$$G = (6.673 \pm 0.010) 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 / \text{kg s}^2 \text{ (Newton gravitational constant)}$$

the most unprecisely known natural constant

- Advantage: explains all phenomena of celestial mechanics in our solar system
- Disadvantage: only describes gravitostatics. It claims that changing  $\vec{x}_0$  temporally has an effect instantaneously.
- Only Albert Einstein circumvented this disadvantage by formulating a



self-consistent theory of gravity. Only possible due to changing our understanding of space and time, i. e. the arena in which any physical process occurs

## 1.2 Relativity Theories of Albert Einstein:

- "Relativity"  $\hat{=}$  observer dependence for measurements

this sounds obvious, but has turned out to have fundamental consequences of our description of nature

- Special relativity (1905): theory (of space and time) without gravity

• space-time is flat

• characterized by Minkowski metric

$$c^2 d\tau^2 = \sum_{\alpha\beta} \eta_{\alpha\beta} dz^\alpha dz^\beta, \quad (\zeta^\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ \vec{x} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\zeta_{\alpha\beta}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & -1 & \\ 0 & & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

proper time  
= time of moving observer

laboratory time

• Newton mechanics is generalised to Einstein mechanics

• Formal procedure:

physical theory in rest frame  $\xrightarrow{\text{boost with Lorentz transformation}}$  physical theory in laboratory frame

- General relativity (1915): theory with gravity

• space-time is curved (Riemann differential geometry)

• curvature of space-time = gravity

$$c^2 d\tau^2 = \underbrace{g_{\mu\nu}} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

metric of space-time = Einstein's gravitation potentials generalising the Newton gravitation potential  $\Phi$  (10 degrees of freedom)

### 1.3 General Relativity:

- Equivalence principle: inertial mass = gravity mass
- Einstein elevator: gravities can be <sup>locally</sup> transformed away by a suitable coordinate transformation
- Formal procedure:
 

physical theory in a local co-moving frame	$\xrightarrow{\text{general coordinate transformation}}$	physical theory in a local frame with gravities
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- Example: motion of a point particle

$$\frac{d^2 x^\lambda}{d\tau^2} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d^2 x^\lambda}{d\tau^2} = - \underbrace{\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda}_{\text{Christoffel symbols}} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} \quad (\text{geodesic equations})$$

Christoffel symbols = first derivatives of the metric = gravitational forces

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda = \frac{1}{2} g^{\lambda\kappa} (\partial_\mu g_{\nu\kappa} + \partial_\nu g_{\mu\kappa} - \partial_\kappa g_{\mu\nu})$$

- Gravitational potentials  $g_{\mu\nu}$  are determined by Einstein field equations = second order nonlinear partial differential equations

$$\underbrace{R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{curvature of space-time}} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \underbrace{T_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{symmetric energy momentum tensor of all fields apart from gravities}}$$

curvature scalar:  $R = R_{\mu}^{\mu}$

Ricci tensor:  $R_{\mu\nu} = R^{\lambda}_{\lambda\mu\nu}$

curvature tensor  $R^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu\kappa} = \partial_{\lambda}\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\kappa} - \partial_{\mu}\Gamma_{\lambda\nu}^{\kappa} + \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\sigma}\Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^{\kappa} - \Gamma_{\lambda\nu}^{\sigma}\Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^{\kappa}$

## 1.4 Schwarzschild metric:

- Solving Einstein field equations for static, isotropic space time:

$$c^2 d\tau^2 = B(r) c^2 dt^2 - A(r) dr^2 - r^2 (d\vartheta^2 + \sin^2\vartheta d\varphi^2) \quad \text{Newton}$$

Poisson expansion:  $B(r) = 1 - 2 \frac{GM}{c^2 r} + 2(\beta - \gamma) \left(\frac{GM}{c^2 r}\right)^2 + \dots$

$$A(r) = 1 + 2\gamma \frac{GM}{c^2 r} + \dots$$

Newton:  $\beta = \gamma = 0$ , Einstein:  $\beta = \gamma = 1$

- Schwarzschild solution (1916):

$$B(r) = 1 - \frac{2a}{r}, \quad A(r) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2a}{r}}, \quad a = \frac{GM}{c^2} = \frac{r_s}{2}, \quad r_{s,\odot} = \frac{2GM_{\odot}}{c^2} = 3 \text{ km}$$

Schwarzschild radius

Newton

$M_{\odot} = 2 \cdot 10^{30} \text{ kg}$

A black hole is a massive object whose Schwarzschild

radius is larger than its radius. Its gravity field is then so large that neither

particles nor electromagnetic waves can leave a black hole.

- Geodesic equation for Schwarzschild metric:

- 4 ordinary differential equations:  $t(\lambda), r(\lambda), \vartheta(\lambda), \varphi(\lambda)$

massive particle  $m > 0$ :  $\lambda = \tau$  proper time

massless particle  $m = 0$ :  $\lambda$  is some trajectory parameter

• integrable: 4 integrals of motion

$$g_{mn}(x(\lambda)) \frac{dx^m(\lambda)}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^n(\lambda)}{d\lambda} = \begin{cases} c^2 & ; m > 0 \\ 0 & ; m = 0 \end{cases}$$

energy, square of angular momentum vector, z-component of angular momentum vector

- Trajectory: eliminate trajectory parameter  $\lambda$

massless particle ( $m=0$ )

$$\frac{d\varphi}{dr} = \frac{\sqrt{A(r)}}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{F^2}{e^2} \frac{1}{B(r)} - \frac{1}{r^2}}} \quad (*)$$

$$\tilde{L} = \lim_{m \rightarrow 0} \frac{L}{m}, \quad F: \text{some integral of motion}$$

$\Rightarrow$  light deflection

massive particle ( $m > 0$ )

$$\frac{d\varphi}{dr} = \frac{\sqrt{A(r)}}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{F^2}{e^2} \frac{1}{B(r)} - \frac{c^2}{e^2} - \frac{1}{r^2}}}$$

$$\tilde{L} = \frac{L}{m}$$

$\Rightarrow$  perihelion rotation

## 2. Experimental Test:

- tests for geodesic equation: light deflection, perihelion rotation

- tests for spinning particles: geodesic precession, Lense-Thirring precession

### 2.1 Light Deflection:

Light ray is deflected in presence of a gravitating object. We focus on the effect of the sun, as light deflection was first observed during sun eclipse in 1919 (Sir Eddington). More precisely, the deflection of microwave radiation from quasars.

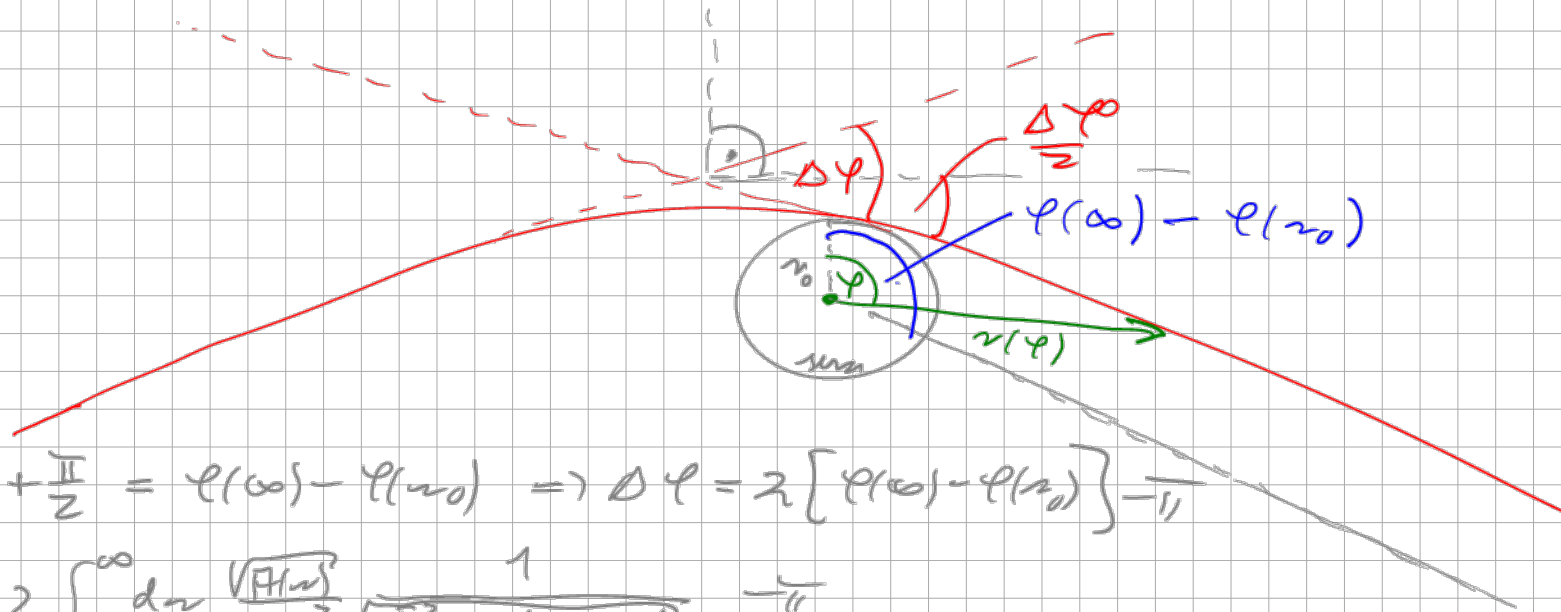
observable is

## 2.1.1 Calculation of light deflection:

Starting point: (\*)

$$\varphi(\infty) - \varphi(r_0) \stackrel{(*)}{=} \int_{r_0}^{\infty} dr \frac{\sqrt{A(r)}}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{F^2}{r^2} \frac{1}{B(r)} - \frac{1}{r^2}}}$$

radius of sun



$$\frac{\Delta\varphi}{2} + \frac{\pi}{2} = \varphi(\infty) - \varphi(r_0) \Rightarrow \Delta\varphi = 2 \left[ \varphi(\infty) - \varphi(r_0) \right] - \pi$$

$$\Delta\varphi = 2 \int_{r_0}^{\infty} dr \frac{\sqrt{A(r)}}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{F^2}{r^2} \frac{1}{B(r)} - \frac{1}{r^2}}} - \pi$$

1. Idea: eliminate integrals of motion by geometric quantities

$$\left. \frac{d\varphi}{dr} \right|_{r_0} \stackrel{!}{=} \infty \Rightarrow \frac{F^2}{r^2} \frac{1}{B(r_0)} = \frac{1}{r_0^2} \Rightarrow \frac{F^2}{r^2} = \frac{B(r_0)}{r_0^2}$$

sun radius  $r_0$   
is minimal distance

$$\Delta\varphi = 2 \int_{r_0}^{\infty} dr \frac{\sqrt{A(r)}}{r} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{r^2 B(r)}{r_0^2 B(r)} - 1}} - \pi \quad (1)$$

2. Idea: gravity of sun is weak, so the Schwarzschild is not needed, ~~Rdlet~~ post-Newtonian is sufficient

$$A(r) = 1 + \gamma \frac{2a}{r} + \dots, \quad B(r) = 1 - \frac{2a}{r} + \dots \quad (2) \quad \text{"a is small" in the sense of } a/r_0 \ll 1$$

(2) in (1), expanded in first order of  $a$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\varphi &= 2 \int_{r_0}^{\infty} dr \left\{ \frac{r_0}{r} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 - r_0^2}} + \frac{\gamma a r_0}{r^2 \sqrt{r^2 - r_0^2}} + \frac{a}{(r + r_0) \sqrt{r^2 - r_0^2}} \right\} - \pi \\ &= 2 \left[ \arccos \frac{r_0}{r} + \frac{\gamma a}{r_0} \frac{\sqrt{r^2 - r_0^2}}{r} + \frac{a}{r_0} \sqrt{\frac{r - r_0}{r + r_0}} \right]_{r_0}^{\infty} - \pi \end{aligned}$$