



From Fierz-Pauli to Einstein-Hilbert

Gravity as a special relativistic field theory

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A pedagogical review

References: R. Feynman et al, *The Feynman Lectures on Gravitation*, 1995

T. Ortín, *Gravity and Strings*, 2004

Central Idea

Orionites with knowlegde of

- special relativity
- quantum field theory
- standard model & QCD
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They will try to describe gravity as a *special relativistic field theory*

—→ try to find a bosonic field (**graviton**) that is responsible for gravity

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\implies **Spin 2 field $h_{\mu\nu}$** : Representation theory: **16 = 9 + 6 + 1**

with **9** = symmetric & traceless

6 = antisymmetric = **spin 1**

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Outlook

1. Introduction 1: Short review of General Relativity
2. Introduction 2: Electromagnetism as SRFT of spin 1

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2. Introduction 2: Electromagnetism as SRFT of spin 1
3. Construction of Fierz-Pauli theory
4. Consistency problems with couplings
5. Deser's argument & General Relativity
6. (Philosophical) Conclusions

1 Short review of General Relativity

Einstein & Hilbert (1915):

Gravity is curvature of spacetime, caused by matter

→ Interaction between $g_{\mu\nu}$ and $T_{\mu\nu}$

$$S = \frac{1}{\kappa} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left[R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{matter}} \right]$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$$

with

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\lambda - \partial_\lambda \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda + \Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\nu}^\sigma - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^\sigma$$

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \frac{1}{2}g^{\rho\sigma} \left(\partial_\mu g_{\sigma\nu} + \partial_\nu g_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma g_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{matter}}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}$$

→ Very geometrical way to understand gravity

Linear perturbations of Minkowski space

Suppose $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$

$$h = h^\mu{}_\mu = \eta^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}$$

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$$\implies g^{\mu\nu} \approx \eta_{\mu\nu} - \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} \approx \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \left[\partial^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \partial_\nu h - \partial_\mu \partial^\rho h_{\nu\rho} - \partial_\nu \partial^\rho h_{\mu\rho} \right]$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R \approx \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \left[\partial^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \partial_\nu h - \partial_\mu \partial^\rho h_{\nu\rho} - \partial_\nu \partial^\rho h_{\mu\rho} - \eta_{\mu\nu} \left(\partial^2 h - \partial_\rho \partial_\lambda h^{\rho\lambda} \right) \right]$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} \approx 0 + \varepsilon \tau_{\mu\nu}$$

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$$T_{\mu\nu} \approx 0 + \varepsilon \tau_{\mu\nu}$$

Einstein eqn $R_{\mu\nu} = -\kappa(T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}T) \implies$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\partial^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \partial_\nu h - \partial_\mu \partial^\rho h_{\nu\rho} - \partial_\nu \partial^\rho h_{\mu\rho} \right] \approx -\kappa \left(\tau_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu}\tau \right)$$

Intermezzo (

Linear perturbations of general solution

Suppose $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$

$$h = h^\mu{}_\mu = \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\implies R_{\mu\nu} \approx \bar{R}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \left[\nabla^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \nabla_\mu \partial_\nu h - \nabla_\mu \nabla^\rho h_{\nu\rho} - \nabla_\nu \nabla^\rho h_{\mu\rho} \right]$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} \approx \bar{T}_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon \tau_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\text{Einstein eqn } R_{\mu\nu} = -\kappa(T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}T) \implies$$

$$[\varepsilon^0] : \quad \bar{R}_{\mu\nu} = -\kappa(\bar{T}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}\bar{T})$$

$$[\varepsilon^1] : \quad \frac{1}{2} \left[\nabla^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \nabla_\mu \partial_\nu h - \nabla_\mu \nabla^\rho h_{\nu\rho} - \nabla_\nu \nabla^\rho h_{\mu\rho} \right]$$

$$\approx -\kappa \left(\tau_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}\tau - \frac{1}{2}h_{\mu\nu}\bar{T} + \frac{1}{2}\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}h^{\rho\lambda}\bar{T}_{\rho\lambda} \right)$$

Gauge invariance

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$$\implies \delta g_{\mu\nu} = \xi^\rho \partial_\rho g_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \xi^\rho g_{\rho\nu} + \partial_\nu \xi^\rho g_{\mu\rho}$$

$$[\varepsilon^0] : \quad \delta \eta_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$$[\varepsilon^1] : \quad \delta h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \chi_\nu + \partial_\nu \chi_\mu$$

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$$\implies \delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \varepsilon \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \chi^\rho$$

$$\delta R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} = \delta R_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

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NB: $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$ with $h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \chi_\nu + \partial_\nu \chi_\mu$

$\implies g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}$ since $h_{\mu\nu}$ is pure gauge

Let's forget

about all this

(for a moment)

2 Electromagnetism as SRFT of spin 1

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- We can impose Lorenz condition $\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$ by hand
 $\implies \partial_\mu j^\mu = 0$ (charge conservation)
- We would like \mathcal{L} such that eqns of motion yield $\mathcal{F}^\mu(A) = j^\mu$
charge conservation $\implies \partial_\mu \mathcal{F}^\mu(A) = 0$
gauge identity implying Lorenz cond.

Most general Lorentz-invar action, quadratic in ∂A

$$\mathcal{L} = \alpha \partial_\mu A_\nu \partial^\mu A^\nu + \beta \partial_\mu A_\nu \partial^\nu A^\mu$$

Eqns of motion: $\mathcal{F}^\nu(A) = \alpha \partial^2 A^\nu + \beta \partial_\mu \partial^\nu A^\mu = 0$

Gauge condition: $\partial_\nu \mathcal{F}^\nu(A) \equiv 0 \implies \alpha = -\beta$

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$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2} \left[\partial_\mu A_\nu \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial_\mu A_\nu \partial^\nu A^\mu \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \quad \text{with} \quad F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$$

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Gauge invariance:

$$\delta \mathcal{L} = \left[\partial_\mu \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta(\partial_\mu A_\nu)} - \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta A_\nu} \right] \delta A^\nu = \partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} \delta A_\nu \sim \partial_\mu \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} \Lambda$$

$$\implies \delta A_\mu = \partial_\mu \Lambda$$

Coupling to matter

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi^* \partial^\mu \phi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

Eqns of motion: $\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi = 0,$ $\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi^* = 0,$ $\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = 0$

Invariant under: $\delta A_\mu = \partial_\mu \Lambda$ (local $U(1)$)
 $\delta \phi = ie\lambda\phi$ (global $U(1)$)

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Noether current for λ :

$$\delta_\lambda \mathcal{L}_0 = -\frac{ie}{2} \partial_\mu \lambda \left(\phi^* \partial^\mu \phi - \phi \partial^\mu \phi^* \right) = e\lambda \partial_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu$$

$j_{(0)}^\mu$ preserved on-shell: $\partial_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu = \frac{i}{2} \left[\phi^* \partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi - \phi \partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi^* \right]$

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$j_{(0)}^\mu$ is **not source term** for $F^{\mu\nu}$

→ add coupling term $\mathcal{L} \sim eA_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu$

Coupling term

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi^* \partial^\mu \phi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + e A_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu$$

$$\text{with } j_{(0)}^\mu = \frac{ie}{2} (\phi^* \partial^\mu \phi - \phi \partial^\mu \phi^*)$$

$$\text{Eqn of motion: } \partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = e j_{(0)}^\nu$$

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi - ie \partial_\mu A^\mu \phi - 2ie A_\mu \partial^\mu \phi = 0$$

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi^* + ie \partial_\mu A^\mu \phi^* + 2ie A_\mu \partial^\mu \phi^* = 0$$

Problem: $j_{(0)}^\mu$ is not conserved on-shell!

$$0 = \partial_\mu \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu \neq 0$$

→ INCONSISTENCY!!!

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Reason:

$j_{(0)}^\mu$ is Noether current of \mathcal{L}_0 , not of \mathcal{L}_1

Real Noether current: $j_{(1)}^\mu = j_{(0)}^\mu + e A^\mu \phi^* \phi$

Noether procedure

Identify λ and Λ

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Then:

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_0 = -e \partial_\mu \Lambda j_{(0)}^\mu \neq 0$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{add } \mathcal{L} \sim e A_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu$$

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$$\delta \mathcal{L}_1 = -e\partial\Lambda j_{(0)}^\mu + e\partial\Lambda j_{(0)}^\mu - e^2\partial_\mu\Lambda A^\mu\phi^*\phi \neq 0$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{add } \mathcal{L} \sim \frac{1}{2}e^2 A_\mu A^\mu \phi^* \phi$$

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Then:

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$$\delta \mathcal{L}_1 = -e\partial_\mu \Lambda j_{(0)}^\mu + e\partial_\mu \Lambda j_{(0)}^\mu - e^2 \partial_\mu \Lambda A^\mu \phi^* \phi \neq 0$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{add } \mathcal{L} \sim \frac{1}{2}e^2 A_\mu A^\mu \phi^* \phi$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu \phi^* \partial^\mu \phi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + eA_\mu j_{(0)}^\mu + \frac{1}{2}e^2 A_\mu A^\mu \phi^* \phi$$

$$\longrightarrow \delta \mathcal{L}_2 = -e^2 \partial_\mu \Lambda A^\mu \phi^* \phi + e^2 \partial_\mu \Lambda A^\mu \phi^* \phi = 0$$

Nota bene:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_2 &= \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\phi^*\partial^\mu\phi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{ie}{2}A_\mu(\phi^*\partial^\mu\phi - \phi\partial^\mu\phi^*) + \frac{1}{2}e^2A_\mu A^\mu\phi^*\phi \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi^* + ieA_\mu\phi^*)(\partial^\mu\phi - ieA^\mu\phi) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} \\ &= D_\mu\phi^*D^\mu\phi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}\end{aligned}$$

with: $D_\mu\phi = \partial_\mu\phi - ieA_\mu\phi$

$$\delta D_\mu\phi = D_\mu(\delta\phi)$$

Nota bene:

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with: $D_\mu\phi = \partial_\mu\phi - ieA_\mu\phi$

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Lesson:

Lorentz symm & gauge invariance \implies free theory

Gauge invariance & consistent couplings

\implies fully consistent theory coupled to matter

3 Gravity as a SRFT of spin 2

Massless spin 2 field $h_{\mu\nu}$:

$$\partial_\rho \partial^\rho h^{\mu\nu} = \kappa T^{\mu\nu}$$

→ not pos. def. energy density due to non-physical states
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Look for action \mathcal{L} such that eqns of motion yield $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}(h) = \kappa T^{\mu\nu}$

$$\text{energy conservation } \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \implies \partial_\mu \mathcal{H}^{\mu\nu}(h) = 0$$

→ gauge invariant action

Most general Lorentz-invar action, quadratic in ∂h

$$\mathcal{L} = a \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} + b \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} + c \partial_\mu h \partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} + d \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h$$

$$\text{with } h = h^\mu{}_\mu = \eta^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Eqns of motion: } \mathcal{H}^{\nu\rho}(h) \equiv & a \partial^2 h^{\nu\rho} + 2b \partial_\mu \partial^{(\nu} h^{\rho)\mu} + c \partial^{(\nu} \partial^{\rho)} h \\ & + c \eta^{\nu\rho} \partial_\mu \partial_\lambda h^{\mu\lambda} + 2d \eta^{\nu\rho} \partial^2 h = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Gauge condition: } \partial_\nu \mathcal{H}^{\nu\rho}(h) \equiv 0 \implies a = -\frac{1}{2}b = \frac{1}{2}c = -d$$

Most general Lorentz-invar action, quadratic in ∂h

$$\mathcal{L} = a \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} + b \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} + c \partial_\mu h \partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} + d \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h$$

$$\text{with } h = h^\mu{}_\mu = \eta^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Eqns of motion: } \mathcal{H}^{\nu\rho}(h) \equiv & a \partial^2 h^{\nu\rho} + 2b \partial_\mu \partial^{(\nu} h^{\rho)\mu} + c \partial^{(\nu} \partial^{\rho)} h \\ & + c \eta^{\nu\rho} \partial_\mu \partial_\lambda h^{\mu\lambda} + 2d \eta^{\nu\rho} \partial^2 h = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Gauge condition: } \partial_\nu \mathcal{H}^{\nu\rho}(h) \equiv 0 \implies a = -\frac{1}{2}b = \frac{1}{2}c = -d$$

The action then is

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{4} \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h \partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} - \frac{1}{4} \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}(h) \equiv & \partial^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \partial_\nu h - \partial^\rho \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} - \partial^\rho \partial_\nu h_{\mu\rho} \\ & - \eta_{\mu\nu} \partial^2 h + \eta_{\mu\nu} \partial_\rho \partial_\lambda h^{\rho\lambda} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

(NB: $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}(h)$ is first order of $R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R$ for $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$)

Gauge invariance

$$\delta\mathcal{L} = \left[\partial_\mu \frac{\delta\mathcal{L}}{\delta(\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho})} - \frac{\delta\mathcal{L}}{\delta h_{\nu\rho}} \right] \delta h^{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{H}^{\nu\rho} \delta h_{\nu\rho} \sim \partial_\nu \mathcal{H}^{\nu\rho} \chi$$
$$\implies \delta h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \chi_\nu + \partial_\nu \chi_\mu$$

(NB: $\delta h_{\mu\nu}$ is first order of $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$ for $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$)

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(NB: $\delta h_{\mu\nu}$ is first order of $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$ for $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$)

- Transverse traceless gauge: $\partial_\mu h^{\mu\nu} = 0 = h$

$$\implies \mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}(h) = \partial_\rho \partial^\rho h_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

- De Donder gauge: $\partial_\mu \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = 0$ with $\bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = h_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\mu\nu} h$

$$\implies \mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}(h) = \partial_\rho \partial^\rho \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

Coupling to matter

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}} + \mathcal{L}_\phi + \kappa h_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu}(\phi)$$

Eqns of motion: $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) \quad \partial^2 \phi + \dots = 0$

Gauge condition: $\partial_\mu \mathcal{H}^{\mu\nu} = 0 \implies \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu}(\phi) = 0$

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Questions:

1. How good is this theory?

→ Experimental verification

2. Is $\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu}(\phi) = 0$ consistent with $\partial^2 \phi + \dots = 0$?

→ Consistency problems

Newtonian limit

Point mass: $T^{\mu\nu} = -M \delta_0^\mu \delta_0^\nu \delta(x^\rho)$

$$\implies \mathcal{H}^{00} = -\kappa M \delta(x^\rho), \quad \mathcal{H}^{ij} = 0$$

$$\implies h_{00} = \Phi, \quad h_{ii} = \Phi \delta_{ij} \quad \Phi = \frac{M}{8\pi|x|}$$

(Newtonian potential)

Action for mass m moving in gravitational potential Φ :

$$S = -m \int dt \left\{ \sqrt{1 - v^2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2}} [1 + v^2] \Phi \right\}$$
$$\approx \int dt \left\{ \frac{1}{2} m v^2 - m \Phi - \frac{1}{4} m v^4 + \frac{3}{2} m v^2 \Phi + \dots \right\}$$

\implies Good agreement for light deflection, time dilatation, ...

Perihelium Mercury is $0.75 \times$ observed value

4 Consistency problems with couplings

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_0 = & \frac{1}{4}\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho}\partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho}\partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} \\ & + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} - \frac{1}{4}\partial_\mu h\partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi\end{aligned}$$

Eqns of motion: $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \partial_\mu\partial^\mu\phi = 0$

Invariant under: $\delta h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu\chi_\nu + \partial_\nu\chi_\mu + \kappa\Sigma^\lambda\partial_\lambda h_{\mu\nu}$

$$\delta\phi = \kappa\Sigma^\mu\partial_\mu\phi$$

$$\delta x^\mu = -\kappa\Sigma^\mu$$

with Σ^μ global symm

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$$\delta\phi = \kappa\Sigma^\mu\partial_\mu\phi$$

$$\delta x^\mu = -\kappa\Sigma^\mu$$

with Σ^μ global symm

Noether current for Σ^μ :

$$\delta_\Sigma\mathcal{L}_0 = \kappa\partial^\mu\Sigma^\nu\left[T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) + T_{\mu\nu}(h)\right]$$

with $T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$ energy-momentum tensor of matter

$T_{\mu\nu}(h)$ gravitational energy-momentum tensor

$$T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) = -\partial_\mu\phi\partial_\nu\phi + \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu}(\partial\phi)^2$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}(h) = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda}\partial_\nu h^{\rho\lambda} + \partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda}\partial^\rho h_\nu{}^\lambda - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\rho h_{\nu\rho} \\ -\frac{1}{2}\partial^\rho h\partial^\mu h_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\mu h + \eta_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}}$$

$T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$ and $T_{\mu\nu}(h)$ preserved on shell:

$$\partial^\mu T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) = -\partial^2\phi\partial_\nu\phi \quad \partial^\mu T_{\mu\nu}(h) = -\partial_\nu h_{\mu\rho}\mathcal{H}^{\mu\rho}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) = -\partial_\mu\phi\partial_\nu\phi + \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu}(\partial\phi)^2$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}(h) = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda}\partial_\nu h^{\rho\lambda} + \partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda}\partial^\rho h_\nu{}^\lambda - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\rho h_{\nu\rho} \\ -\frac{1}{2}\partial^\rho h\partial^\mu h_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\mu h + \eta_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}}$$

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$T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$ is **not source term** for $h_{\mu\nu}$:

→ add coupling term $\mathcal{L} \sim \kappa h^{\mu\nu}T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$

Coupling term

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_1 = & \frac{1}{4}\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho}\partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho}\partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} \\ & + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} - \frac{1}{4}\partial_\mu h\partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi + \frac{1}{2}\kappa h^{\mu\nu}T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)\end{aligned}$$

Eqns of motion: $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$
 $\partial_\mu\partial^\mu\phi = \kappa\partial_\mu\left[h^{\mu\nu}\partial_\nu\phi - \frac{1}{2}h\partial_\mu\phi\right]$

Problem: $T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$ is no longer conserved on shell!

$$0 = \partial^\mu\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa\partial^\mu T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) = \kappa\partial^2\phi\partial_\nu\phi \neq 0 \quad (-22)$$

→ INCONSISTENCY!!!

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→ INCONSISTENCY!!!

Reason:

$T^{\mu\nu}(\phi)$ is Noether current of \mathcal{L}_0 , not of \mathcal{L}_1

Total energy conserved, not only energy of ϕ

Gravity couples also to own energy → non-linear theory

Gravity self-coupling

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_2 = & \frac{1}{4}\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho}\partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho}\partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} \\ & - \frac{1}{4}\partial_\mu h\partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi + \frac{1}{2}\kappa h^{\mu\nu}T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) + \frac{1}{2}\kappa h^{\mu\nu}T_{\mu\nu}(h)\end{aligned}$$

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→ TOO NAIVE!!!

Eqn of motion does **not** give

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) + \kappa T_{\mu\nu}(h)$$

due to contribution of $T_{\mu\nu}(h)$

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due to contribution of $T_{\mu\nu}(h)$

→ $T_{\mu\nu}(h)$ too simple for energy-momentum tensor for $h_{\mu\nu}$

We need $\mathcal{L}_{\text{corr}} = \kappa h^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L}_{\mu\nu} \sim \kappa h(\partial h)(\partial h)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_3 = & \frac{1}{4} \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\nu h^{\mu\rho} + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h \partial^\rho h^{\mu\rho} \\ & - \frac{1}{4} \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + \frac{1}{2} \kappa h^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) + \kappa h^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L}_{\mu\nu} \end{aligned}$$

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- $\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h) = \mathcal{L}_{\mu\nu} - \partial_\sigma \left(h^{\rho\lambda} \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_{\rho\lambda}}{\delta \partial_\sigma h_{\mu\nu}} \right)$
- \mathcal{L}_3 is invariant **upto order κ^2** under

$$\delta h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \chi_\nu + \partial_\nu \chi_\mu + \kappa \chi^\rho \partial_\rho h_{\mu\nu} \quad \delta \phi = \kappa \chi^\rho \partial_\rho \phi$$

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- $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) + \kappa \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h) \quad \partial^\mu \left(T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) + \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h) \right) = 0$

Most general term for $\mathcal{L}_{\text{corr}}$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{corr}} = \frac{1}{2}\kappa h^{\mu\nu} \left[\alpha \partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda} \partial_\nu h^{\rho\lambda} + \beta \partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda} \partial^\rho h^\lambda{}_\nu + \dots \right]$$

→ 20 terms with 16 coefficients

→ determine coefficients by demanding $\partial_\mu \mathcal{T}^{\mu\nu}(h) = \gamma^\nu{}_{\rho\lambda} \mathcal{H}^{\rho\lambda}$

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$$\begin{aligned} \implies \mathcal{L}_{\text{corr}} = & \frac{1}{2}\kappa h^{\mu\nu} \left[-\frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h_{\rho\lambda} \partial_\nu h^{\rho\lambda} - \partial^\rho h_\mu{}^\lambda \partial_\rho h_{\lambda\nu} + \partial^\lambda h^\rho{}_{(\mu} \partial_\rho h_{\nu)\lambda} \right. \\ & + 2\partial^\lambda h^\rho{}_{(\mu} \partial_{\nu)} h_{\rho\lambda} - \partial_{(\mu} h_{\nu)\lambda} \partial^\lambda h - \partial^\lambda h_{\mu\nu} \partial^\rho h_{\rho\lambda} \\ & \left. - \partial^\lambda h_{\lambda(\mu} \partial_{\nu)} h + \partial_\lambda h_{\mu\nu} \partial^\lambda h + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h \partial_\nu h + \eta_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Eqns of motion: $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h) + \kappa T_{\mu\nu}(\phi)$

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi = \kappa \partial_\mu \left[h^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} h \partial^\mu \phi \right]$$

Conservation of energy: $\partial^\mu \left[\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h) + T_{\mu\nu}(\phi) \right] = 0$

- Consistent result upto order κ
- Right values for perihelium of Mercury
 - previous deficit due to neglecting self-interaction
- What about order $\kappa^2, \kappa^3, \dots$?
 - Extremely tedious!!

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WE NEED A MORE GENERAL ARGUMENT!

5 Deser's argument & General Relativity

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = -\kappa \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right] + \eta^{\mu\nu} \left[\Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\rho - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\rho \right]$$

with $\bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = h_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu}h$

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\rho$$

Invariant under: $\delta h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \chi_\nu + \partial_\nu \chi_\mu$
 $\delta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \chi^\rho$

Eqns of motion: $[\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}] : \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\nu \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\rho = 0$

$$[\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho] : -\kappa \partial_\rho \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} + \kappa \partial_\lambda \bar{h}^{\lambda(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} + 2\eta^{\lambda(\mu} \Gamma_{\rho\lambda}^{\nu)} - \eta^{\lambda\sigma} \Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^{(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} - \eta^{\mu\nu} \Gamma_{\rho\lambda}^\lambda = 0$$

$[\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho]$ is algebraic eqn for $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \longrightarrow$ **Constraint on $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$**

Constraint on $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho}$:

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} = \frac{1}{2}\kappa \eta^{\rho\lambda} \left[\partial_{\mu} h_{\lambda\nu} + \partial_{\nu} h_{\mu\lambda} - \partial_{\lambda} h_{\mu\nu} \right]$$

→ $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho}$ is **not independent field**

($\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho}$ is 1st order of Christoffel symbol for $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$)

Constraint on $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$:

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→ $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$ is **not independent field**

($\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$ is 1st order of Christoffel symbol for $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$)

Substitute in $[\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}]$:

$$\partial^2 h_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \partial_\nu - \partial^\rho \partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} - \partial^\rho \partial_\nu h_{\mu\rho} = 0$$

$$\iff \mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{H}_\rho{}^\rho = 0$$

(1st order of $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$ for $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon h_{\mu\nu}$)

$\implies \mathcal{L}_0$ is equivalent to \mathcal{L}_{FP}

We want to find **correction to \mathcal{L}_0** which takes **in account the self-interaction** of $h_{\mu\nu}$, such that $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = -\kappa \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right] + (\eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa h^{\mu\nu}) \left[\Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\rho - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\rho \right]$$

Eqns of motion:

$$[\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}]: R_{\mu\nu}(\Gamma) = 0$$

$$[\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho]: -\kappa \partial_\rho \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} + \kappa \partial_\lambda \bar{h}^{\lambda(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} + 2(\eta^{\lambda(\mu} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\lambda(\mu}) \Gamma_{\rho\lambda}^{\nu)}) - (\eta^{\lambda\sigma} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\lambda\sigma}) \Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^{(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} - (\eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\mu\nu}) \Gamma_{\rho\lambda}^\lambda = 0$$

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- Correction term has no $\eta_{\mu\nu} \implies$ **No contribution to $\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h)$**
No further correction needed

We want to find **correction to \mathcal{L}_0** which takes **in account the self-interaction** of $h_{\mu\nu}$, such that $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \kappa \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = -\kappa \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right] + (\eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa h^{\mu\nu}) \left[\Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\rho - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\rho \right]$$

Eqns of motion:

$$[\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}]: R_{\mu\nu}(\Gamma) = 0$$

$$[\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho]: -\kappa \partial_\rho \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} + \kappa \partial_\lambda \bar{h}^{\lambda(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} + 2(\eta^{\lambda(\mu} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\lambda(\mu}) \Gamma_{\rho\lambda}^{\nu)}) - (\eta^{\lambda\sigma} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\lambda\sigma}) \Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^{(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} - (\eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\mu\nu}) \Gamma_{\rho\lambda}^\lambda = 0$$

- Correction term has no $\eta_{\mu\nu} \implies$ **No contribution to $\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(h)$**
No further correction needed
- $R_{\mu\nu}(\Gamma) = \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho - \partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho + \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\rho - \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\rho$ is Ricci tensor
(Surprise!) What is the connection $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$?

Define

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = \hat{g}^{\mu\nu} \\ \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \hat{g}^{\nu\rho} = \delta_{\mu}^{\rho} \\ g_{\mu\nu} = \sqrt{|\hat{g}|} \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \end{array} \right.$$

→ $g_{\mu\nu}$ non-linear combination of $h^{\mu\nu}$ (infinite series)

→ $g_{\mu\nu}$ acts as metric

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→ $g_{\mu\nu}$ non-linear combination of $h^{\mu\nu}$ (infinite series)

→ $g_{\mu\nu}$ acts as metric

Constraint on $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho}$:

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\rho\lambda} \left[\partial_{\mu} g_{\lambda\nu} + \partial_{\nu} g_{\mu\lambda} - \partial_{\lambda} g_{\mu\nu} \right]$$

→ $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho}$ is Levi-Civita connection

→ $R_{\mu\nu}(\Gamma) = R_{\mu\nu}(g)$

→ $[\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}]$ is Einstein eqn $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$

Eqn of motion $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$ invariant under general coord transf

However \mathcal{L}_1 is not!

→ add total derivative $\eta_{\mu\nu} \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right]$

Eqn of motion $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$ invariant under general coord transf

However \mathcal{L}_1 is **not**!

→ add total derivative $\eta_{\mu\nu} \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right]$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \mathcal{L}_2 &= (\eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa \bar{h}_{\mu\nu}) \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right] \\ &\quad + (\eta^{\mu\nu} - \kappa h^{\mu\nu}) \left[\Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\rho - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\rho \right] \\ &= g^{\mu\nu} \left[\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\rho - \partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \right] + g^{\mu\nu} \left[\Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\rho - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\rho \right] \\ &= g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu}(g) \end{aligned}$$

→ Einstein-Hilbert action!

6 Conclusions

- Fierz-Pauli \mathcal{L}_{FP} is consistent as **free theory**
- **Couplings to matter** \implies **self-coupling of gravity**
 \implies **inconsistent**
- Possible (but difficult) to construct **consistent theory** upto order κ^2
- **General Relativity** is consistent extension to **all orders** (**unique?**)
- Surprising **geometrical interpretation**: non-linear function of $h^{\mu\nu}$ is **metric**
 \longrightarrow **very elegant & much richer structure**