

Numerical relativity: directly solving Einstein's equations on a computer.

Recall an old homework exercise: Bianchi identity

$$\nabla^a G_{ab} = 0 \rightarrow \nabla^0 G_{0b} = -\nabla^i G_{ib}$$

NOTE: using "Fortran"

convention in this lecture!

Can therefore only have 1 time derivative.

Has at most 2 time derivatives

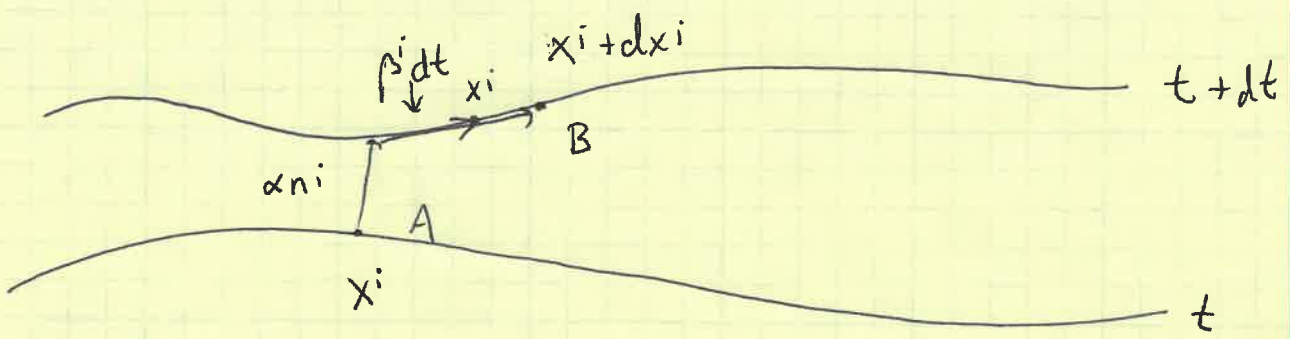
Allows a split into "constraint" and "evolution" equations:

$$G_{0b} = 8\pi G T_{0b} \rightarrow \text{relates } g, \partial_t g \text{ at a single "moment of time"}$$

$$G_{ij} = 8\pi G T_{ij} \rightarrow \text{relates } g, \partial_t g, \partial_t^2 g \rightarrow \text{Turns into an evolution equation, stepping us from "one moment of time to another"}$$

To do an evolution like this, need to explicitly choose a notion of time!

Choosing our coordinates forces us to introduce several auxiliary notions: a "lapse" and a "shift":



Event A is at (t, x_i)

Event B is at $(t+dt, x_i+dx_i)$

n_i is the normal to the "timeslice".

The proper time experienced by an observer who moves along n_i from t to $t+dt$ is

$$dT = \alpha dt$$

↳ lapse converts coordinate interval to proper interval for "normal" observer.

→ α gives us the freedom to run time at different rates in different parts of our spacetime!

β^i is the shift: it reflects our freedom to slide spatial coordinates around however we want in ~~our~~ each of our timeslices.

Notice that the total spacetime distance from pt A to B is

$$ds^2 = -\alpha^2 dt^2 + g_{ij} (dx^i + \beta^i dt) (dx^j + \beta^j dt)$$

"Arnowitt, Deser, Misner" (ADM) form of the metric.

Exercise helped clarify what we need to do:

1. Pick spacetime coordinates \leftrightarrow pick α, β^i .
2. Figure out how to express all the geometric tensors of GR as quantities that "live" in the 3-dimensional slices.
3. Use this to break up $G_{ab} = 8\pi G T_{ab}$ into appropriate equations
4. Pick initial data and attack.

A bit more formally: Take our spacetime manifold M , "foliate" it with level surfaces of some scalar function t . Define a 1-form:

$$\Omega_a \equiv \nabla_a t$$

Define the normal of this 1-form via

$$g^{ab} \Omega_a \Omega_b \equiv -1/\alpha^2$$

(If Ω_a is timelike, then $\alpha > 0$.) Use this to normalize: $\omega_a \equiv \alpha \Omega_a$

Useful property: $\omega_{[a} \nabla_b \omega_{c]} = 0$
"irrotational". \perp

Define the normal: $n^a \equiv \sqrt{-g^{ab}} \omega_b$ so it points to increasing t .
so $n_a = -\omega_a$

Notice: $n^a n_a = +g^{ab} \omega_a \omega_b$
 $= \alpha^2 g^{ab} \Omega_a \Omega_b = -1$

$n_a = g_{ab} n^b$
 $= -g_{ab} g^{bc} \omega_c$
 $= -\omega_a$

→ useful to regard n^a as the 4-velocity of a particular preferred observer!

n^a defines the timelike direction. A useful quantity to make is the tensor which projects orthogonal to this direction:

$$\gamma_{ab} \equiv g_{ab} + n_a n_b$$

↳ can regard γ_{ab} as

Notice: $n^a \gamma_{ab} = h_b + (n_a n^a) n_b$ metric in slice!
 $= h_b - n_b = 0.$

Inverse: $\gamma^{ab} = g^{ac} g^{bd} \gamma_{cd}$
 $= g^{ab} + n^a n^b$

Mixed: $\gamma^a_b = \delta^a_b + n^a n_b$

(Sometimes useful to have a tensor that projects into the timelike direction:

$$N^a_b \equiv -n^a n_b.)$$

Use projection tensor to define any tensor in slice:

$$[T^a_b]_{\text{in slice}} = \gamma^a_c \gamma^d_b T^c_d$$

In particular, use this to define covariant derivative in time slice:

$$D_a f \equiv \text{3-D covar deriv in slice}$$

$$= \gamma^b_a \nabla_b f$$

$$D_a [T^b_c]_{\text{in slice}} = \gamma^d_a \gamma^e_b \gamma^f_c \nabla_d T^e_f$$

Note: can show $D_a \gamma_{bc} = 0$

→ can define a 3-D christoffel in the usual way, use it to write "cov = partial + Γ ."

Last thing we need to do is define curvature tensors.

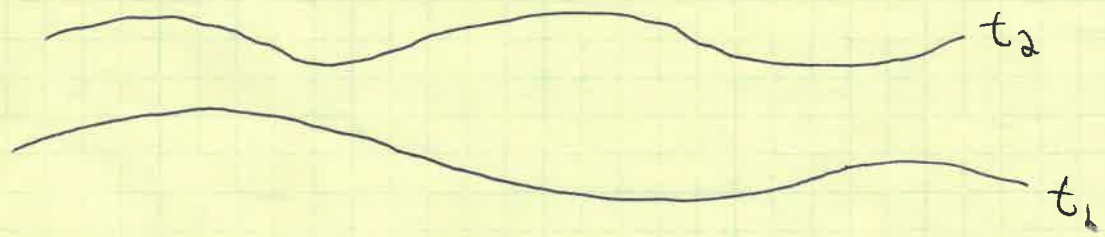
2 major pieces, plus a final step:

1. Riemann tensor intrinsic to the geometry of a single slice - usual formula, but assembled from the spatial metric γ_{ab} . Define in terms of

$$\text{commutator: } [D_a, D_b] w_c = R^d{}_{abc} w_d$$

$$R^d{}_{abc} n_d = 0. \quad \leftarrow \text{3-D curvature!!}$$

2. Curvature due to "embedding" of each timeslice in the 4-dimensional geometry:



This "extrinsic" curvature is clearly related to the expansion/divergence of normal vectors.

Define "Expansion": $\Theta_{ab} = \gamma^c{}_a \gamma^d{}_b \nabla_c n_d$

"twist": $\omega_{ab} = \gamma^c{}_a \gamma^d{}_b \nabla_c n_d$
 $= 0$ due to irrotational.

Definition: "Extrinsic curvature" is the (negative) of the expansion:

$$K_{ab} = -\gamma^c{}_a \gamma^d{}_b \nabla_c n_d$$

↑ no need to symmetrize, since antisymmetric piece vanishes.

Definition: acceleration: $a_c = n^b \nabla_b n_c$.

Using this, our definition becomes

$$\begin{aligned} K_{ab} &= -\nabla_a n_b - n_a a_b \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_{\vec{n}} \gamma_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

"Extrinsic curvature is the time derivative of the spatial geometry".

Final groundwork: Relate the "real" 4-D curvature ${}^{(4)}R^a{}_{bcd}$ to the curvature on a slice & the extrinsic curvature.

Results:

1. Gauss's Equation

$$\gamma^p{}_a \gamma^q{}_b \gamma^r{}_c \gamma^s{}_d {}^{(4)}R_{pqrs} = R_{abcd} + 2K_c[a K_b]d$$

Fully spatial projection of ${}^{(4)}$ Riemann.

2. Codazzi Equation

$$\gamma^p{}_b \gamma^q{}_a \gamma^r{}_c n^s {}^{(4)}R_{rpqs} = 2D[a K_c]b$$

One time component.

3. Ricci's Equation

$$\mathcal{L}_{\vec{n}} K_{ab} = n^d n^c \gamma^q{}_a \gamma^r{}_b {}^{(4)}R_{rdqc} - \frac{1}{\alpha} D_a D_b \alpha - K^c{}_b K_{ac}$$

$$n^d n^c \gamma^q{}_a \gamma^r{}_b {}^{(4)}R_{rdqc} = \frac{1}{\alpha} D_a D_b \alpha + K^c{}_b K_{ac} + \mathcal{L}_{\vec{n}} K_{ab}$$

Now, we have all the pieces - ready to attack!

$${}^{(4)}G_{ab} = 8\pi G T_{ab}$$

Look at 3 projections of this:

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad n^a n^b {}^{(4)}G_{ab} &= 8\pi G n^a n^b T_{ab} \\ &\equiv 8\pi G \rho \quad \rho \equiv \text{energy density measured} \\ &\quad \text{by a "normal" observer} \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{R + K^2 - K_{ab} K^{ab} = 16\pi G \rho} \quad \text{"Hamiltonian constraint"}$$

$$K = \gamma^{ab} K_{ab}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \gamma^a_c n^b \text{ (Einstein eq):}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow D_b K^b_a - D_a K &= -8\pi G \gamma^b_a n^c {}^{(4)}T_{bc} \\ &\equiv 8\pi G j_a \end{aligned}$$

$j_a \equiv$ momentum density measured by a normal observer.

$\textcircled{3}$ Both spatial projections: $\perp \Sigma$, define the time direction

$$t^a = \alpha n^a + \beta^a$$

$n^a \equiv$ "Eulerian observer", at rest in slice

$$\rightarrow t^a \Omega_a = 1.$$

$t^a \equiv$ "coordinate observer."

Dual to Ω_a .

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\vec{t}} K_{ab} &= -D_a D_b \alpha + \alpha (R_{ab} - 2K_{ac} K^c_b + K K_{ab}) \\ &\quad - 8\pi G \alpha \left(S_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{ab} (S - \rho) \right) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{L}_{\vec{\beta}} K_{ab} \end{aligned}$$