GR — Exercise sheet 11

Sarp Akcay

[sarp.akcay@uni-jena.de, Abbeanum, office 202] (Return date: 20.01.2020)

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1 Mercury perihelion

Exercise 1.1: Perturbative solution of precession equation

Consider the equation

$$u'' + u = A + Bu^2 , \qquad (1)$$

with A, B constants. For B = 0 the solutions are Newtonian ellipses $u_N(\phi) = A(1 + e \cos \phi)$ characterized by their eccentricity e.

- (a) Let $u = u_N + v$, and derive an equation for v.
- (b) Linearize the equation for v, v'' + v = s, where s is a term that does not depend on v.
- (c) The linearized equation corresponds to a forced oscillator; its solution is given by the general solution of the homogeneous equation plus a particular solution of the full equation.
- (d) Verify that each of the equations on the left has the particular solution on the right:

$$v'' + v = C (2)$$

$$v'' + v = C\cos\phi \qquad \qquad v = \frac{C}{2}\phi\sin\phi \qquad (3)$$

$$v'' + v = C\cos^2\phi$$
 $v = \frac{C}{2} - \frac{C}{6}\cos(2\phi)$ (4)

(e) Write down the solution of the linearized equation for v, and discuss the effect of each of the three terms.

2 Recap: Perfect fluid

Exercise 2.1: Perfect fluid

Consider the perfect fluid model for the stress energy tensor

$$T = (\rho + p)u \otimes u + pg$$

where u is the 1-form associated to the fluid's 4-velocity, ρ, p are scalars and g is the metric. Use the general definition of the stress-energy tensor to

- (a) Justify that ρ is the energy density measured by an observer comving with the fluid.
- (b) Argument that p is the pressure in the fluid's comoving frame.
- (c) Calculate the expression for the momentum density of the matter and of the stress tensor of the matter.
- (d) Introduce the properly the speed of light c and discuss that in the slow velocity limit $|T_{00}| \gg |T_{0i}| \gg |T_{ij}|$.

[Hint: consider an observer with 4-velocity v and a set of 3 unit vectors e_i perpendicular to v and use the definition of T(.,.)]

3 Recap: Parallel Transport

Exercise 3.1: Parallel transport on the 2-torus

Consider the 2-torus

$$T^{2} = \left\{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^{3} | \left(\sqrt{x^{2} + y^{2}} - R \right)^{2} + z^{2} = r^{2} \right\},\$$

where r is the radius of the circular section of the torus, and R is the distance between the center of the torus and the center of the circular section. r and R are constants such that r < R. The parametric representation of the torus reads

$$\begin{cases} x(\theta, \phi) &= (R + r\cos\theta)\cos\phi, \\ y(\theta, \phi) &= (R + r\cos\theta)\sin\phi, \\ z(\theta, \phi) &= r\sin\theta, \end{cases}$$

where $\theta, \phi \in [0, 2\pi)$.

- (a) Find the line element ds^2 using the expressions above, and thus the components of the metric induced on the torus in coordinates (θ, ϕ) .
- (b) Write down the parallel transport equation around the curve $\gamma^i(\phi) = (\theta_0, \phi), \theta_0 = cnst$, in terms of the Christoffel symbols, showing explicitly which terms vanish. **Hint:** First you need to find the tangent vector to the curve with the correct normalization factor.

(c) Derive the two coupled non-vanishing differential equations for the parallel transport and solve them.
Hint: Once you get the first-order system of equations, take the derivative of each one and substitute in the other one.