

Ecole de Gif 2017  
Relativité générale et ondes gravitationnelles

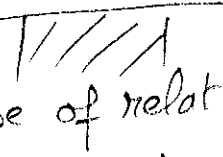

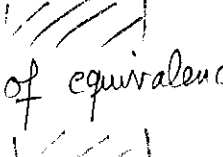

GENERAL RELATIVITY  
AND  
ALTERNATIVE THEORIES

Luc BLANCHET  
Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris

1. Metric theories of gravity
2. Polarization modes in metric theories
3. General relativity
4. Scalar-tensor theories
5. Massive gravity and bimetric theories
6. Einstein-Cartan theory

# METRIC THEORIES OF GRAVITY

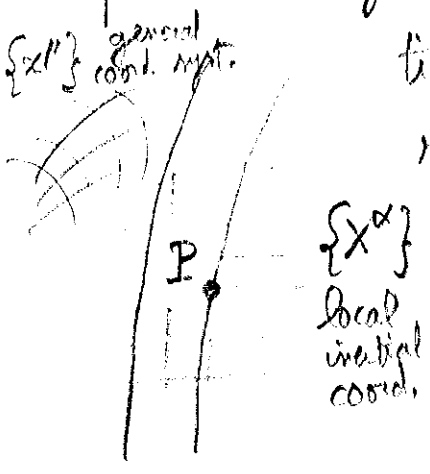
- Based on 2 fundamental principles
- principle of special relativity (Einstein, Lorentz, Poincaré 1905)
  - (weak) equivalence principle or universality of free fall

theories	Metric theories	
principles	 ppe of relat 	 ppe of equivalence (WEP) 
Experiments	Fizeau (1851) Michelson-Morley (1887) $\frac{\Delta c}{c} \lesssim 10^{-8}$ (Brillet-Hall 1979) Hughes-Drever ⋮	Eötvös (1898) Dicke et al, Braginsky $\left  \left( \frac{m_i}{m_g} \right)_a - \left( \frac{m_i}{m_g} \right)_b \right  \leq 10^{-12}$ Microscope ( $10^{-15}$ ?) Lunar laser ranging ( $10^{-13}$ )

These two principles can be combined into the Einstein equivalence principle EEP (1911)

1. WEP is valid hence all test bodies (uncharged, small extension w.r.t. inhomogeneities of the grav. field) have the same acceleration in a gravitational field, independently of their internal structure and composition (and mass);
2. In the freely falling frame of test bodies, called local inertial frames, the laws of special relativity are valid.  
In particular

Local Lorentz invariance (LLI): the outputs of local experiments (performed in the freely falling inertial frame) are independent of the velocity of that frame. This implies that a non-gravitational interaction A must be coupled to a second-rank tensor field  $\Psi_{\mu\nu}^{(A)}(x)$  reducing in the local inertial coord. to



rank tensor field  $\Psi_{\mu\nu}^{(A)}(x)$  reducing in the local inertial coord. to

$$\Psi_{\alpha\beta}^{(A)}(X) = \Phi^{(A)}(X) \eta_{\alpha\beta}$$
$$\eta_{\alpha\beta} = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1, 1) \quad \text{Minkowski metric}$$
$$\alpha, \beta = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

Local position invariance (LPI): outputs of experiments are independent of the space-time location (event  $P = (x^\mu) = (X^\alpha)$ ). Hence\*

$$\Phi^{(A)}(X) = c^A \Phi(X)$$

and  $c^A$  can be set to one by rescaling the coupling constant of the interaction A. Hence we conclude that all non-gravitational interactions A must be universally coupled to a single tensor field

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \Phi^{-1} \Psi_{\mu\nu} \quad \text{in arbitrary coordinates } \{x^\mu\},$$

which reduces to  $g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta}$  at P in loc. inertial coord.  $\{X^\alpha\}$ .

Postulates of EEP are equivalent to those of metric theories of gravity: (1) Space-time is endowed with a metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu}(x) dx^\mu dx^\nu \quad \mu, \nu = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

\* Measured physical quantities are dimensionless ratios and  $\Phi(X)$  will cancel out. For instance the length of a rod is measured by comparing to a standard rod whose length is defined to be one meter.

(2) The worldlines of test bodies are geodesics of that metric

$$\boxed{a^\mu = u^\nu \nabla_\nu u^\mu = 0}$$

$$\begin{cases} u^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} & \text{4-velocity} \\ a^\mu & \text{4-acceleration} \end{cases} \quad d\tau^2 = -\frac{1}{c^2} ds^2 \quad \text{proper time of test body}$$

covariant derivation  $\nabla_\nu u^\mu = \partial_\nu u^\mu + \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\mu u^\rho$

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

Christoffel symbol

$u^\mu, a^\mu$  are tensors  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $g_{\mu\nu}$  is a tensor  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $ds^2$  is a scalar  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\nabla_\nu u^\mu$  is a tensor  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , but  $\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\mu$  is not a tensor.

\* A tensor  $\begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}$  is defined by its components in an arbitrary coord. system  $\{x\}$

$$T \begin{matrix} \overbrace{\mu \dots}^{p \text{ indices}} \\ \underbrace{\rho \dots}_{q \text{ indices}} \end{matrix} (x)$$

In an arbitrary change of coord.  $\{x\} \rightarrow \{x'\}$

$$T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \rho \dots \end{matrix} (x') = \frac{\partial x'^\mu}{\partial x^\alpha} \frac{\partial x'^\nu}{\partial x^\beta} \dots \frac{\partial x^\lambda}{\partial x'^\rho} \frac{\partial x^\sigma}{\partial x'^\tau} T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \lambda \dots \end{matrix} (x)$$

The covariant derivation of tensor  $\begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$  tensor  $\begin{bmatrix} p \\ q+1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\nabla_\lambda T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \rho \dots \end{matrix} = \partial_\lambda T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \rho \dots \end{matrix} + \Gamma_{\lambda\varepsilon}^\mu T \begin{matrix} \varepsilon \dots \\ \rho \dots \end{matrix} + \Gamma_{\lambda\varepsilon}^\nu T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \rho \dots \end{matrix} - \Gamma_{\lambda\rho}^\varepsilon T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \varepsilon \dots \end{matrix} - \Gamma_{\lambda\sigma}^\rho T \begin{matrix} \mu \dots \\ \sigma \dots \end{matrix}$$

All physical (geometrical) objects in metric theories are tensors.

(3) In local inertial frames  $\{X^\alpha\}$  the metric reduces to the Minkowski metric and its derivatives vanish

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial X^\gamma} = 0 \quad \text{at event } P \text{ in loc. in. coord. } \{X\}$$

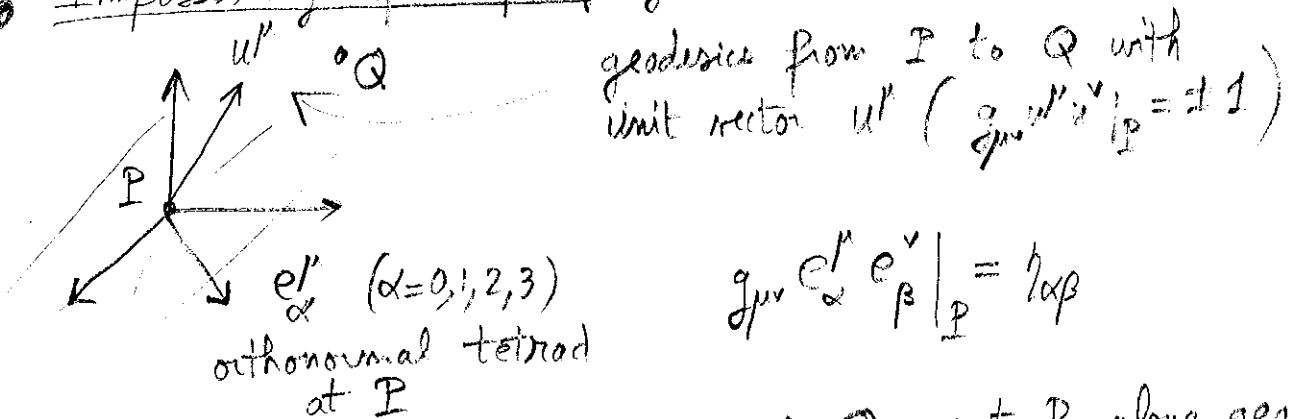
This implies  $\boxed{\nabla_\rho g_{\mu\nu} = 0}$  (Ricci theorem) in any coordinate system  $\{x\}$ .

Intrinsic curvature of space-time is defined by the Riemann curvature tensor [4]  $R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$

• Non-commutation of covariant derivatives (Ricci identity)\*

$$(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu - \nabla_\nu \nabla_\mu) V^\lambda = R^\lambda{}_{\cdot\epsilon\mu\nu} V^\epsilon$$

• Impossibility of defining global inertial coordinates



$s =$  s.t. interval of position of Q w.r.t. P along geodesic

Riemann normal coordinates  $\{X^\alpha\}$  defined by

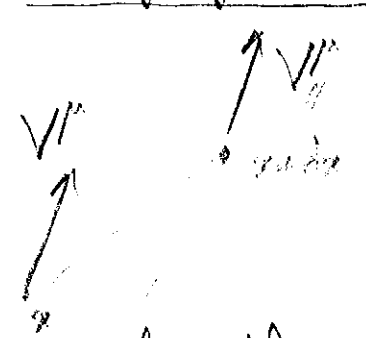
$$s u^\mu = X^\alpha e'^\mu_\alpha$$

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} X^\gamma X^\delta + O(X^3)$$

\* We have

$$R^\lambda{}_{\rho\mu\nu} = \partial_\rho \Gamma^\lambda_{\mu\nu} - \partial_\nu \Gamma^\lambda_{\rho\mu} + \Gamma^\lambda_{\mu\rho} \Gamma^\mu_{\nu\sigma} - \Gamma^\lambda_{\mu\nu} \Gamma^\mu_{\rho\sigma}$$

• Ambiguity in the parallel transport along a closed contour



eq. of parallel transport

$$dx^\nu \nabla_\nu V^\mu = 0$$

satisfied by vector  $V^\mu$  ( $V^\mu_{||} = V^\mu$ )

Along the closed (infinitesimal) contour C after one round

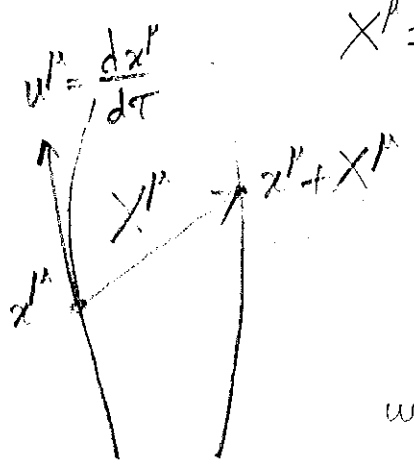


$$\Delta V^\mu = V^\mu_{||} - V^\mu = -\frac{1}{2} R^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} V^\nu \oint_C x^\rho dx^\sigma$$

where  $\oint_C x^\rho dx^\sigma = \int_{\text{surface with boundary } C} dx^\lambda \wedge dx^\sigma = \text{surface area sustained by } C$   
(antisymmetric in  $\rho\sigma$ )

• Equation of geodesic deviation

$X^\mu$  = small separation between two geodesics



$$\frac{D^2 X^\mu}{d\tau^2} = -R^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} u^\nu X^\rho u^\sigma$$

where  $\frac{D}{d\tau} = u^\nu \nabla_\nu$

• Bianchi and Einstein identities

$$\nabla_\lambda R^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} + \nabla_\rho R^\mu{}_{\nu\sigma\lambda} + \nabla_\sigma R^\mu{}_{\nu\lambda\rho} \equiv 0$$

By contracting two times

$$\nabla_\nu G^{\mu\nu} \equiv 0$$

with  $G^{\mu\nu} = R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} R$  Einstein tensor

$R^{\mu\nu} = R^\lambda{}_{\rho\sigma\lambda}$  Ricci tensor

$R = g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu}$  scalar curvature

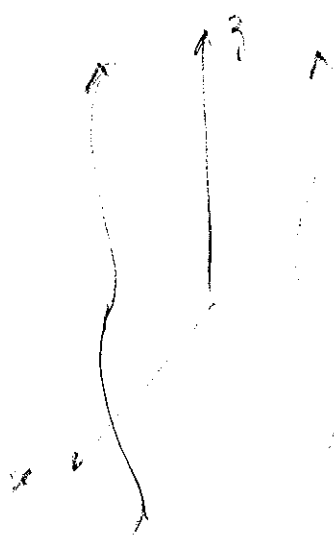
# Plane gravitational waves in metric theories

We consider a wave-like small perturbation of the metric

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} \quad \text{with } |h_{\mu\nu}| \ll 1$$

We restrict attention to metric theories admitting wave solutions propagating at the speed of light  $c=1$ . \* Far from their sources the waves are almost planar. We choose the axes of the coord. system such that the wave propagate in the  $z$  direction hence  $\square h_{\mu\nu} = 0$  gives

$$h_{\mu\nu} = h_{\mu\nu}(t-z)$$



From that let us prove that the components of the Riemann tensor also propagate with the speed of light

$$R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(t-z)$$

This follows from the Bianchi identities at order  $O(h^2)$

$$\partial_\lambda R^{\rho\sigma}_{\cdot\nu\rho\sigma} + \partial_\rho R^{\rho\sigma}_{\cdot\nu\sigma\lambda} + \partial_\nu R^{\rho\sigma}_{\cdot\lambda\rho\sigma} = O(h^2)$$

Contracting with  $\delta^\rho_\mu$  this gives

$$\partial_\rho R^{\rho\sigma}_{\cdot\nu\sigma\lambda} = \partial_\sigma R_{\nu\lambda} - \partial_\lambda R_{\nu\sigma} + O(h^2)$$

\* Perhaps only in certain gauges, like in GR. Some metric theories (for a. b. with spin 2 massless particles, such as a fixed Lorentz metric) have  $C_{GH} \neq C_{EM}$ . The gauge choice here.

Hence, taking now the divergence  $\partial^\lambda$  of Bianchi 7

$$\square R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \partial_\rho(\partial_\nu R_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma R_{\mu\nu}) - \partial_\sigma(\partial_\nu R_{\mu\rho} - \partial_\rho R_{\mu\nu}) + O(h^2)$$

Further expressing Ricci in terms of  $\partial_{\mu\nu}$

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \left( -\square h_{\mu\nu} - \partial_\mu \partial_\nu h + \partial_\mu \partial_\rho h^\rho_\nu + \partial_\nu \partial_\rho h^\rho_\mu \right) + O(h^2)$$

this gives (exercise)

$$\square R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\rho(\partial_\nu \square h_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma \square h_{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\sigma(\partial_\nu \square h_{\mu\rho} - \partial_\rho \square h_{\mu\nu}) + O(h^2)$$

Hence since  $\square h_{\mu\nu} = 0$  we have also  $\square R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = 0$ .

We look for the number of independent components of  $R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$  ( $t-3$ )

Using again the (linearized) Bianchi identity together with the known symmetries of Riemann

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} &= -R_{\nu\mu\rho\sigma} = R_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} \\ R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} &= R_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} \\ R^\lambda_{\ \rho\mu\nu} + R^\lambda_{\ \rho\nu\mu} + R^\lambda_{\ \nu\rho\mu} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \int \text{gives 20 independent components of Riemann in } t \text{ dimensions}$$

this yields the constraints, for any pair  $\mu\nu$  (exercise)

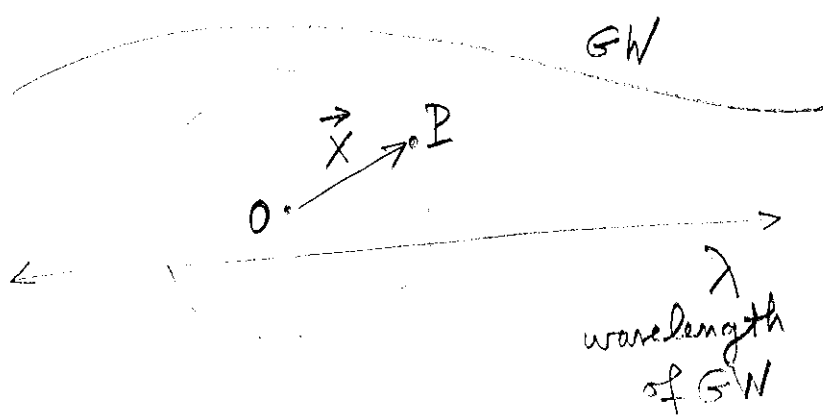
$$R_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda} = 0 \quad R_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda} = R_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \quad R_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda} = R_{\lambda\sigma\mu\nu}$$



Thus  $R_{0i0j}(t-z)$  where  $i, j = x, y, z$  represent 6 independent components for the most general wave.

Gravitational waves (propagating at the speed of light  $c=1$ ) in metric theories of gravity have 6 independent polarizations.

We study the deformation of a sphere of particles freely falling in the field of the GW for each of the polarization modes.



Work out the equation of geodesic deviation between "central" geodesic of O and the geodesic of a point P on the sphere, at first order in

$$\left| \frac{|\vec{X}|}{\lambda} \right| \ll 1$$

$$\left| \frac{D^2 X^\mu}{dt^2} = - R^\mu_{\nu\rho\sigma} u^\nu X^\rho u^\sigma \right|$$

where we can always choose  $X^\mu$  such that  $u_\mu X^\mu = 0$ , which follows from the fact that  $u_\mu \frac{D^2 X^\mu}{dt^2} = 0$  (exercise).

The 4-velocity  $u^\mu$  is the velocity of the central geodesic followed by O and since  $u^\mu$  is always multiplied by terms  $O(h)$  we can choose  $u^\mu = (1, \vec{0})$  hence

$$X^\mu = (0, X^i) \text{ modulo } O(h^2) \text{ terms}$$

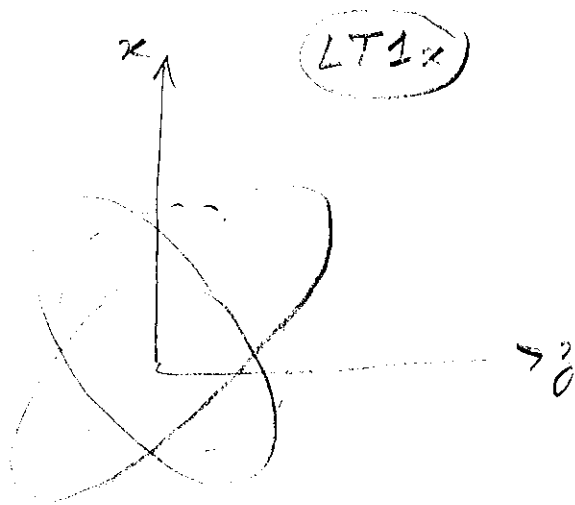


The deformation pattern remains invariant under a rotation along the direction of propagation  $z$  with angle  $\pi$ . Now from general consideration the invariance angle  $\Delta\varphi$  is related to the spin of the wave by

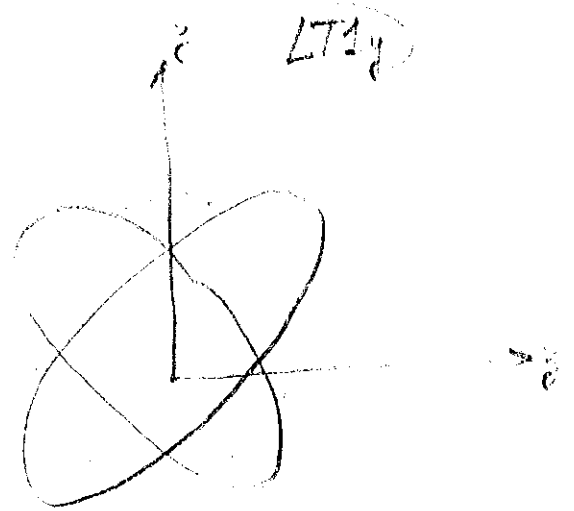
$$\Delta\varphi = \frac{q\pi}{s}$$

Hence these two modes correspond to spin 2 (or tensorial) waves.

There are two vector modes



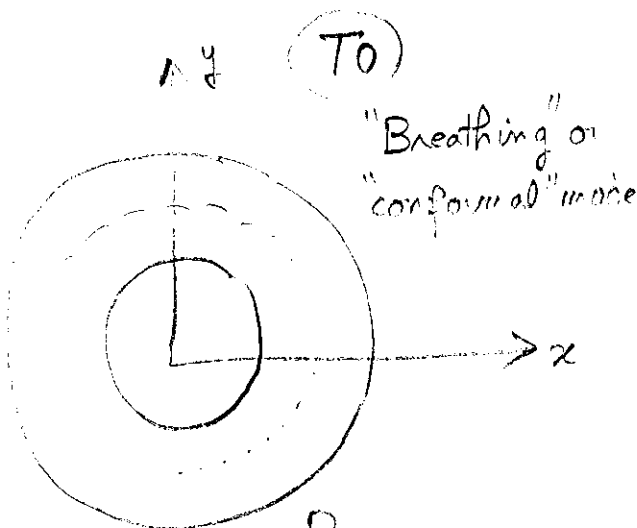
$R_{0x0z}$



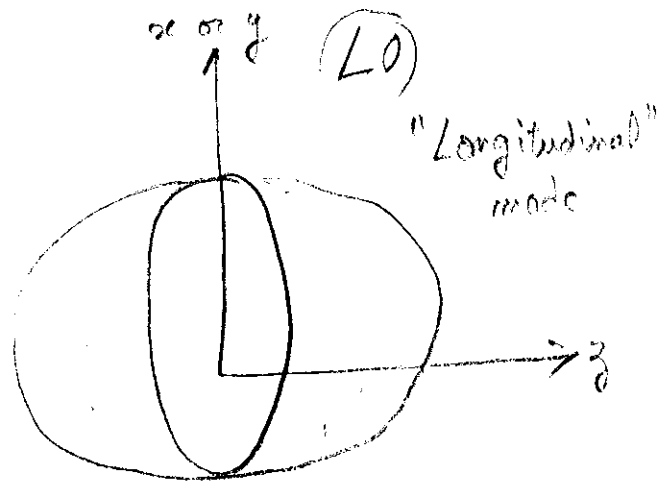
$R_{0y0z}$

These modes are both longitudinal and transverse and correspond to spin 1 (or vectorial) waves.

And there are two scalar modes, one transverse and one longitudinal,



$R_{0x0x} = R_{0y0y}$



$R_{0z0z}$

# Examples of metric theories of gravity

## 1. General Relativity (GR)

GR is the simplest metric theory of gravity, since the gravitational field is entirely described by the mt. metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$ .  
It is based on the Einstein-Hilbert action (1916)

$$S = \frac{c^3}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R + S_{\text{matter}}[\psi; g]$$

$\uparrow$  scalar curvature                       $\downarrow$  matter fields  
 $\uparrow$  universal coupling of matter fields to the metric

We can also add a cosmological constant  $\Lambda$  (which plays a crucial role in cosmology today as being interpreted as the "dark energy")

$$S = \frac{c^3}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - 2\Lambda) + S_{\text{matter}}$$

The Einstein eqs (EE) obtained by variation  $\delta S$  (see later for the complete derivation) read

$$G^{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T^{\mu\nu}$$

where  $G^{\mu\nu} = R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} R$  is the Einstein tensor and

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_{\text{matter}}}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}}$$

is the stress-energy tensor of the matter fields.

In vacuum, the Einstein eqs reduce to  $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$   
and this reduces the number of propagating modes.

Normally  $R_{\mu\nu} = \text{DP}$   $\Rightarrow -R_{0\rho 0\nu} + R_{\rho 0 \nu 0} + R_{\rho\nu 00} + R_{00\rho\nu} = 0$  12

and this gives 4 additional constraints namely  
on 10 modes on 12 modes on 10 modes

$$R_{0\rho 0\rho} = R_{0\nu 0\nu} = 0 \quad R_{0\rho 0\rho} = R_{0\nu 0\nu} = R_{0\rho 0\rho} = 0$$

and it remains only 2 polarization modes, namely  
the two spin-2 transverse modes  $T_{2+}$  and  $T_{2-}$  corresponding to

$$R_{0\rho 0\rho} + R_{0\nu 0\nu} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad R_{0\rho 0\nu} = R_{0\nu 0\rho}$$

GR corresponds to the propagation of a pure spin-2 wave, which is massless (since it propagates at speed  $c$ ).

For a small perturbation

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

the field equations reduce at linear order to

$$\square \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} - \partial^\mu \bar{h}^{\nu\rho} - \partial^\nu \bar{h}^{\mu\rho} + \eta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\rho \bar{h}^{\rho\sigma} = -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T^{\mu\nu} \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = h^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \eta^{\mu\nu} h$ ,  $h = \eta^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}$ ,  $\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = \partial_\rho h^{\mu\nu}$ ,  $\square = \eta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu$   
Dale d'Alembertian operator

These eqs admit the gauge invariance

$$\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} + \partial^\mu \xi^\nu + \partial^\nu \xi^\mu - \eta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\rho \xi^\rho$$

which results from the diffeomorphism invariance of the

full non-linear Einstein eqs (invariant by arbitrary change of coordinates  $\{x^\mu\} \rightarrow \{x'^\mu\}$  with  $x'^\mu = x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x)$ ). The gauge invariance of the linearized field eqs imply the conservation law\*

$$\partial_\nu (-T^{\mu\nu} + t^{\mu\nu}) = 0$$

which is fully equivalent to the covariant conservation of the matter stress-energy tensor.

$$\nabla_\nu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

which follows from the EE by the Einstein identity  $\nabla_\nu G^{\mu\nu} = 0$ .

Using the gauge invariance we can make a choice of gauge and impose the so-called harmonic or de Donder condition

$$\bar{H}^\mu = \partial_\nu \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = 0 \text{ so that the linearized field eqs read}$$

$$\square \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{16\pi G}{c^4} T^{\mu\nu} + \partial^\mu \partial^\nu \bar{h}$$

in vacuum  $\square \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = 0$  and the theory admits wave solutions, e.g.  $\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{h}^{\mu\nu}(t - z/c)$ .

### 2. Scalar-tensor theories (Jordan, Thirring, Fierz 1930; Brons and Licke 1960)

The gravitational field is described by the metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  (to which are coupled all matter fields) and by a scalar field  $\phi$ .

\* It can be viewed as the conservation law associated with the gauge symmetry by Noether's theorem.

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \left[ F(\phi) R - Z(\phi) g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - 2U(\phi) \right] + S_m[\Psi_m; g_{\mu\nu}]$$

Still all matter fields  $\Psi_m$  are universally coupled to the metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  ("metric" coupling). There are 3 arbitrary functions of the scalar field  $F(\phi)$ ,  $Z(\phi)$ ,  $U(\phi)$ .<sup>\*</sup> The scalar sector involves the scalar kinetic term  $\propto g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi$ , and there is a potential term  $\propto U(\phi)$ . The factor  $F(\phi)$  needs to be positive for the gravitons to carry positive energy.

The metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  is called the physical or Jordan metric, and the previous action is written in the so-called Jordan frame. The Jordan metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  defines lengths and times as measured by laboratory rods and clocks (made of matter).

One can go to the so-called Einstein frame by a redefinition of variables. Namely

$$g_{\mu\nu}^* = F(\phi) g_{\mu\nu} \quad (\text{conformal transformation})$$

$$\left(\frac{d\phi}{d\varphi}\right)^2 = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{d \ln F}{d\phi}\right)^2 + \frac{Z}{2F} \quad (\text{redefinition of scalar field } \phi \rightarrow \varphi)$$

\* One can always redefine the scalar field to be e.g.  $F(\phi)$ , so that after redefinition there are only 2 arbitrary functions.

$$2V(\varphi) = U(\phi) F^{-2}(\phi) \quad (\text{redefinition of potential}) \quad 15$$

We also pose  $A(\varphi) = (F(\phi))^{-1/2}$  and  $\alpha = \frac{d \ln A(\varphi)}{d\varphi}$ .

Then the gravitational part reproduces exactly the Einstein-Hilbert action, while the kinetic term for the scalar field is standard,

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{1}{4} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi - V(\varphi) \right) + \sum_m (\Psi_m; \partial^\mu \psi \partial_\mu \psi)$$

In the Einstein frame, the theory is easy to analyze because the Einstein metric  $g_{\mu\nu}^*$  is a pure spin-2 field and the scalar field  $\varphi$  is a pure spin-0 component.

The gravitational constant measured in a Cavendish experiment is not  $G$  but

$$G_{\text{measured}} = G A^2 \left( 1 + \frac{\alpha^2}{4} \right)$$

due to the exchange of a graviton between branes  
 due to the exchange of a scalar particle

while the parametrized post-Newtonian (PPN) parameters tested in the solar system and binary pulsars are

$$\gamma = 1 - 2 \frac{\alpha^2}{2(1+\alpha^2)}$$

$$\beta = 1 + \frac{\alpha^2}{2(1+\alpha^2)} \frac{d\alpha}{d\varphi}$$

Finally the theory has 3 polarization modes: in addition to the two spin-2 transverse modes  $T2_\pm$  and  $T2_X$ , there is also the transverse scalar mode  $T0$  (generated by the scalar field  $\varphi$ ).



### 3. Massive gravity and bimetric theories

In GR the graviton is a particle with spin 2 and is massless (thus the range of the interaction is infinite).

Fierz and Pauli (1939) action: unique linear theory for a massive spin-2 field without "ghosts"

$$S_{FP} = \frac{c^3}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \left[ \underbrace{\partial_\mu h_{\nu\rho} \partial^\mu h^{\nu\rho} - H H^\mu}_\text{Einstein-Hilbert action with } g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}} + \underbrace{\frac{m_g^2 c}{\hbar} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h^\mu{}_\nu - \partial_\nu h^\mu{}_\mu - h^\mu{}_\mu \right)}_\text{mass term} \right] + \mathcal{O}(h^3)$$

$\lambda_g = \frac{\hbar}{m_g c}$  Compton wavelength associated with graviton

Recently a massive gravity theory has been found (de Rham, Gabadadze 2010; de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley 2010), which represents the unique extension of GR with a massive graviton, and is completely safe from the theoretical issue of ghosts of any order in perturbation theory.

In one version of it (Hassler and Posen 2012) the theory is a bimetric theory, in which two metrics

$$g_{\mu\nu} : \eta_{\mu\nu}$$

interact in a specific, uniquely fixed way. Thus, gravity is described by the physical metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  (to which all matter fields are coupled) and also by another metric  $f_{\mu\nu}$ . It is impossible to couple the matter fields to both metrics at the same time.

$$S_{\text{massive gravity}} = \int d^4x \left[ \underbrace{\frac{M_g^2}{2} \sqrt{g} R_g}_{\text{kinetic term of metric } g} + \underbrace{m_g^2 V(g, f)}_{\text{interaction term}} + \underbrace{\frac{M_f^2}{2} \sqrt{f} R_f}_{\text{kinetic term of metric } f} \right]$$

Define  $X = \sqrt{g^{-1} f}$  i.e.  $X^\mu_\nu X^\rho_\sigma = g^{\mu\rho} f_{\nu\sigma}$   
 and  $Y = \sqrt{f^{-1} g}$   $Y^\mu_\nu Y^\rho_\sigma = f^{\mu\rho} g_{\nu\sigma}$

$$V = \sqrt{-g} \sum_{n=0}^4 \alpha_n e_n(X) = \sqrt{-f} \sum_{n=0}^4 \beta_n e_n(Y)$$

5 numerical constants

where  $e_n(X)$  are the symmetric polynomials associated with the square-root matrix  $X^\mu_\nu$ :

$$e_0(X) = -\frac{1}{24} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$$

$$e_1(X) = -\frac{1}{6} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} X^\lambda_\sigma$$

$$e_2(X) = -\frac{1}{4} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\tau\lambda} X^\tau_\rho X^\lambda_\sigma$$

⋮

This theory has 5 polarization modes:

- $T_{2z}, T_{2x}$ : spin-2 transverse modes like in GR
- $LT_{1z}, LT_{1y}$ : spin-1 longitudinal modes
- $T_0$ : spin-0 transverse mode

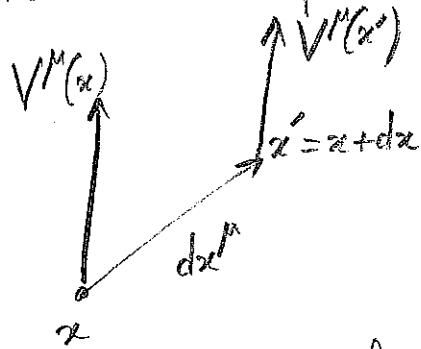
But the longitudinal spin-0 mode  $L_0$  is forbidden in this theory, this is a ghost.

# Einstein-Cartan theory: an example of non-metric theory of gravity 18

It is based on a Riemann-Cartan space-time manifold.

Basically we keep the notion of parallel transport

For a vector field  $V^\mu(x)$  parallelly transported from  $x$  to  $x'$   
 $\exists$  affine connection  $\Gamma^\mu_{\nu\rho}$  such that



$$dV^\mu = -\Gamma^\mu_{\nu\rho} dx^\nu V^\rho$$

where  $dV^\mu = V^\mu(x+dx) - V^\mu(x) = dx^\nu \partial_\nu V^\mu$

In a coord. transformation  $\{x\} \rightarrow \{x'\}$  this connection transforms like the Christoffel symbol

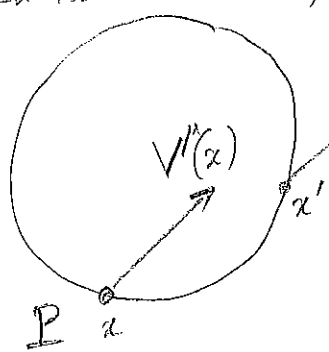
$$\Gamma'^\mu_{\nu\rho}(x') = \frac{\partial x'^\mu}{\partial x^\epsilon} \frac{\partial x^\lambda}{\partial x'^\nu} \frac{\partial x^\sigma}{\partial x'^\rho} \Gamma^\epsilon_{\lambda\sigma} + \frac{\partial x'^\mu}{\partial x^\lambda} \frac{\partial^2 x^\lambda}{\partial x'^\nu \partial x'^\rho}$$

But  $\Gamma^\mu_{\nu\rho}$  is not necessarily symmetric in  $\nu\rho$ . However its anti-symmetric part is a tensor, the Cartan tensor or torsion

$$C^\mu_{\nu\rho} = \Gamma^\mu_{\nu[\rho\sigma]}$$

The curvature is defined by the parallel transport of a vector along an infinitesimal closed contour (exactly like in GR)

closed contour  
(infinitesimal around  $P$ )



$$V^{\mu}(z') = V^{\mu}(z)$$

Parallel transport equation gives  
after a round trip

$$\Delta V^{\mu} = - \oint \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho} dx^{\nu} V^{\rho}$$

Near  $P$  (Taylor expansion to first order)  
and the sol. of the parallel transport equation to first order is

$$\Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho}(z) = \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho}(z_P) + (z^{\sigma} - z_P^{\sigma}) \partial_{\sigma} \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho}(z_P) + \mathcal{O}(|z - z_P|^2)$$

$$V^{\rho}(z) = V^{\rho}(z_P) - (z^{\sigma} - z_P^{\sigma}) \Gamma^{\rho}_{\sigma\lambda}(z_P) V^{\lambda}(z_P) + \mathcal{O}(|z - z_P|^2)$$

$$\Delta V^{\mu} = - \oint \left[ \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho}(z_P) V^{\rho}(z_P) - (z^{\sigma} - z_P^{\sigma}) \Gamma^{\rho}_{\sigma\lambda} \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho} V^{\lambda} + (z^{\sigma} - z_P^{\sigma}) \partial_{\sigma} \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho} V^{\rho} + \mathcal{O}(2) \right] dx^{\nu}$$

But  $\oint dx^{\nu} = 0$  around a closed contour

$$\Delta V^{\mu} = - \underbrace{\left[ \partial_{\sigma} \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho} V^{\rho} - \Gamma^{\rho}_{\sigma\lambda} \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\rho} V^{\lambda} \right]}_{\oint x^{\sigma} dx^{\nu}} \oint x^{\sigma} dx^{\nu}$$

From Stoke's theorem  $\oint x^{\sigma} dx^{\nu} = \int_{\text{surface limited by the contour}} dx^{\sigma} \wedge dx^{\nu}$

NB: Stoke's theorem is best expressed in terms of differential forms

If  $\oint \mathbb{f} = \oint_{\mu} f_{\mu} dx^{\mu}$  then  $d\mathbb{f} = \partial_{\nu} f_{\mu} dx^{\mu} \wedge dx^{\nu}$  and we have

$$\boxed{\oint_{\text{contour}} \mathbb{f} = \int_{\text{surface}} d\mathbb{f}}$$

We define (like in GR)

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$$\Delta V^\mu = -\frac{1}{2} R^\mu_{\nu\rho\sigma} V^\nu \int_{\text{surface}} dx^\rho \wedge dx^\sigma$$

(for an infinitesimal contour)

$$R^\mu_{\nu\rho\sigma} = \partial_\rho \Gamma^\mu_{\sigma\nu} - \partial_\sigma \Gamma^\mu_{\rho\nu} + \Gamma^\mu_{\rho\lambda} \Gamma^\lambda_{\sigma\nu} - \Gamma^\mu_{\sigma\lambda} \Gamma^\lambda_{\rho\nu}$$

(antisymmetric w.r.t. 2<sup>d</sup> pair of indices  $\rho\sigma$ )

On the Riemann-Cartan space-time we have a covariant derivative defined by

$$dx^\nu \nabla_\nu V^\mu = 0 \quad \text{for parallelly transported vectors}$$

Hence 
$$\nabla_\nu V^\mu = \partial_\nu V^\mu + \Gamma^\mu_{\nu\rho} V^\rho$$

↑  
index of derivation comes first

The s.t. is metric, and the metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  (symmetric in  $\mu\nu$ ) is defined to be compatible with the covariant derivative

$$\nabla_\lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$$\partial_\lambda g_{\mu\nu} - \cancel{\Gamma^\rho_{\lambda\mu} g_{\nu\rho}} - \cancel{\Gamma^\rho_{\lambda\nu} g_{\mu\rho}} = 0$$

$$\partial_\nu g_{\mu\lambda} - \cancel{\Gamma^\rho_{\nu\mu} g_{\lambda\rho}} - \cancel{\Gamma^\rho_{\nu\lambda} g_{\mu\rho}} = 0$$

$$-\partial_\mu g_{\nu\lambda} + \cancel{\Gamma^\rho_{\mu\nu} g_{\lambda\rho}} + \cancel{\Gamma^\rho_{\mu\lambda} g_{\nu\rho}} = 0$$

$$0 = \partial_\lambda g_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\nu g_{\mu\lambda} - \partial_\rho g_{\nu\lambda} - 2 C_{\cdot\lambda\rho}^{\cdot\mu} g_{\nu\rho} - 2 C_{\cdot\nu\rho}^{\cdot\mu} g_{\lambda\rho} - 2 \Gamma_{\cdot(\lambda\nu)}^{\cdot\rho} g_{\rho\mu}$$

Define the usual Christoffel symbol as

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

$$0 = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mu \\ \nu\lambda \end{matrix} \right\} - C_{\nu\lambda\cdot}^{\cdot\mu} - C_{\lambda\nu\cdot}^{\cdot\mu} - \Gamma_{\cdot(\nu\lambda)}^{\cdot\mu}$$

$$\Gamma_{\cdot\nu\lambda}^{\cdot\mu} = \Gamma_{\cdot(\nu\lambda)}^{\cdot\mu} + \Gamma_{\cdot[\nu\lambda]}^{\cdot\mu}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mu \\ \nu\lambda \end{matrix} \right\} + C_{\nu\lambda\cdot}^{\cdot\mu} + C_{\lambda\nu\cdot}^{\cdot\mu} + \Gamma_{\cdot[\nu\lambda]}^{\cdot\mu}$$

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{\cdot\nu\lambda}^{\cdot\mu} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mu \\ \nu\lambda \end{matrix} \right\} + K_{\cdot\nu\lambda}^{\cdot\mu}}$$

where the tensor  $K_{\cdot\nu\lambda}^{\cdot\mu}$  is called the contorsion

$$\boxed{K_{\cdot\nu\lambda}^{\cdot\mu} = C_{\nu\lambda\cdot}^{\cdot\mu} + C_{\lambda\nu\cdot}^{\cdot\mu} + C_{\cdot\nu\lambda}^{\cdot\mu}}$$

It is anti-symmetric in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> indices

$$\boxed{K_{\mu\nu\lambda} = -K_{\lambda\nu\mu}}$$

On a Riemann-Cartan space-time the Einstein equivalence principle (EEP) is not valid\*. One cannot

define a locally inertial frame  $\{X^\alpha\}$  such that  $g_{\alpha\beta}(X)$  equals  $\eta_{\alpha\beta}$  at a point  $P$  and differs around  $P$  by small corrections of second order in the distance.

If  $g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} + O(\epsilon^2)$  then  $\partial_\gamma g_{\alpha\beta} = O(\epsilon)$  hence  $\{\alpha\beta\} = O(\epsilon)$

But by def. of the covariant derivative  $\nabla_\gamma g_{\alpha\beta} = 0 = \epsilon \Gamma^\delta_{\gamma(\alpha} g_{\beta)\delta}$  hence we should have  $\Gamma = K$  which cannot be zero. There is a non-trivial parallel transport.

One can thus erect loc. inertial coord. (and thus recover local Lorentz invariance LLI) only if the contorsion and torsion are zero.

The Ricci tensor  $R_{\mu\nu} = R^\lambda_{\cdot\mu\lambda\nu}$  is no longer symmetric

$$R_{[\mu\nu]} = (\nabla_\rho + T_\rho) T^\rho_{\cdot\nu\mu}$$

where  $T^\rho_{\cdot\nu\mu} = C^\rho_{\cdot\nu\mu} + \epsilon \delta^\rho_{\nu\mu} C^\lambda_{\cdot\mu\lambda}$  is the modified torsion and  $T_\rho = T^\sigma_{\cdot\sigma\rho}$ . The Riemann tensor  $R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$  is still anti-symmetric wrt  $\mu\nu$  and  $\rho\sigma$  but the cyclic symmetry is modified. Bianchi identities are modified too, as well as Ricci identity

$$(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu - \nabla_\nu \nabla_\mu) V^\rho = R^\rho_{\cdot\sigma\mu\nu} V^\sigma - \epsilon C^\sigma_{\cdot\mu\nu} \nabla_\sigma V^\rho$$

\* Hence the theory is not relativistic.

Einstein-Cartan theory is defined by the same action as GR 23

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R + S_m[\psi, g, C]$$

where  $R$  is the scalar curvature (depending on metric and torsion) and the matter action depend also on the torsion.

To get a non-trivial theory we need that the matter tensor depends on  $C^\mu_{\nu\rho}$ . This dependence will be through a covariant derivative in the matter action, so we need particles with spins. Indeed, matter with spins implies derivatives

$$\rho(\vec{x}) \sim m \delta_{(3)}(\vec{x}) + \frac{1}{c} S^i{}_j \delta_{(3)}^i(\vec{x}) + \dots$$

and the minimal coupling to gravity  $\partial_i \rightarrow \nabla_\mu$  will imply covariant derivatives and hence a dependence on torsion. See the description of particles with spins.

The field equations are (exercise)

$$G_{\mu\nu} + (\nabla_\rho + T_\rho) U_{\mu\nu}{}^\rho = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$U_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu} = 8\pi \Sigma_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu}$$

where  $U_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu} = T_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\rho}{}^{\nu\mu} + T_{\rho}{}^{\nu\mu}$  and

$$T_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_m}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \quad \Sigma_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_m}{\delta C_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu}}$$

If  $S_m$  does not depend on  $C_{\rho}{}^{\mu\nu}$  Einstein-Cartan simply reduces to Einstein.