

Raychaudhuri's equation

Our Ricci tensor for spacetime is determined by $T_{\mu\nu}$ via Einstein's equations. What about the effect on matter of spacetime curvature?

(1.1a)

Consider a congruence of geodesics

(1.1b)

Set of curves in an open region of spacetime, such that every point in the region lies on precisely one curve.

$$\begin{cases} u^\mu u_\mu = -1 \\ u^\lambda \nabla_\lambda u^\mu = 0 \end{cases}$$

(1.2)

Previously, we found that for the separation vector

$$\frac{DV^\mu}{d\tau} \equiv u^\nu \nabla_\nu V^\mu = B^\mu{}_\nu V^\nu$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{B^\mu{}_\nu = \nabla_\nu u^\mu}$$

Consider space of vectors \perp and \parallel to u^μ .

(1.3)

- Use projector

$$\boxed{P^\mu{}_\nu = \delta^\mu{}_\nu + u^\mu u_\nu}$$

to get the component of a tensor \perp to u^μ .

- Claim: $B_{\mu\nu}$ is in the \perp subspace.

Proof: $u^\mu B_{\mu\nu} = u^\mu \nabla_\nu u_\mu = 0 \quad \because \quad u^\mu u_\mu = -1 \text{ so } u^\mu \nabla_\nu u_\mu = 0$

and $u^\nu B_{\mu\nu} = u^\nu \nabla_\nu u_\mu = 0$ by geodesic equation.

- $B_{\mu\nu}$ has trace, symmetric traceless, and anti-symmetric components.

Note: Since $B \perp u$, use $P^\mu{}_\nu$ to take the trace!
(Cute mathematical trick / observation)

(1.4)

Define $\Theta \equiv P^\mu{}_\nu B_{\mu\nu} = \boxed{\nabla_\mu u^\mu = \Theta}$ \leftarrow "expansion" of congruence

Then define

$$\sigma_{\mu\nu} = B_{(\mu\nu)} - P_{\mu\nu} \cdot \frac{\theta}{3}$$

i.e.

$$(2.1) \quad \sigma_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{(\nu} u_{\mu)} - (\delta^{\mu}_{\nu} + u^{\mu} u_{\nu}) \frac{1}{3} (\nabla_{\lambda} u^{\lambda})$$

there are 3 independent basis vectors in the \perp subspace (not 4!)

↑ "shear" of the congruence

and thirdly define

$$(2.2) \quad \omega_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{[\nu} u_{\mu]}$$

"rotation" of the congruence

For evolution along the path,

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

Acting on $B_{\mu\nu}$ we have

$$\frac{D}{d\tau} B_{\mu\nu} = u^{\sigma} \nabla_{\sigma} \nabla_{\nu} u_{\mu}$$

$$= u^{\sigma} (\nabla_{\nu} \nabla_{\sigma} u_{\mu} + R^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu\sigma} u_{\lambda})$$

$$= \nabla_{\nu} (u^{\sigma} \nabla_{\sigma} u_{\mu}) - (\nabla_{\nu} u^{\sigma}) (\nabla_{\sigma} u_{\mu}) - R_{\mu\lambda\nu\sigma} u^{\sigma} u^{\lambda}$$

$$(2.3) \quad = -B^{\sigma}_{\nu} B_{\mu\sigma} - R_{\mu\lambda\nu\sigma} u^{\sigma} u^{\lambda}$$

Tracing over this gives

$$(2.4) \quad \frac{D\theta}{d\tau} = -\frac{1}{3}\theta^2 - \sigma_{\mu\nu}\sigma^{\mu\nu} + \omega_{\mu\nu}\omega^{\mu\nu} - R_{\mu\nu}u^{\mu}u^{\nu}$$

This is called "RAYCHAUDHURI'S EQUATION"

Other parts (for $\sigma_{\mu\nu}$ and $\omega_{\mu\nu}$) are in Appendix F of Carroll on p.461.

(They don't get used nearly as often as (5-3).)

▷ How about physical consequences?

- Since $\sigma_{\mu\nu}$ and $\omega_{\mu\nu}$ are both spatial tensors, (because $B_{\mu\nu} = \sigma_{\mu\nu} + \omega_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{3}P_{\mu\nu}\theta \perp u^M \leftarrow$ timelike)

(3.1) $\omega_{\mu\nu}\omega^{\mu\nu} \geq 0$ and $\sigma_{\mu\nu}\sigma^{\mu\nu} \geq 0$.

- (3.2) • If u^M is orthogonal to a family of hypersurfaces then $(u_{[\mu}\nabla_{\nu]}u_{\rho]} = 0$ and $\omega_{\mu\nu} \equiv 0$.

• Let's also consider

Since $R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi G_N T_{\mu\nu} - \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$,

(3.3) $\therefore R(1 - \frac{D}{2}) = 8\pi G_N T - \Lambda D$,

$R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu} \frac{2}{(2-D)} (8\pi G_N T - \Lambda D) + 8\pi G_N T_{\mu\nu} - \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$ (D>2) ↓

$= \frac{1}{(2-D)} g_{\mu\nu} 8\pi G_N T - \frac{\Lambda D g_{\mu\nu}}{(2-D)} + 8\pi G_N T_{\mu\nu} - \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$

(3.4) $= 8\pi G_N (T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{T g_{\mu\nu}}{(D-2)}) + g_{\mu\nu} \Lambda \frac{2}{(D-2)}$

(3.5) $\Rightarrow R_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu = 8\pi G_N [T_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu + \frac{T}{(D-2)}] - \frac{2}{(D-2)} \Lambda$

This implies that

- (3.6) if
- $\omega_{\mu\nu} = 0$
 - $T_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu \geq -\frac{T}{(D-2)} u^\mu u_\nu$ ← (Strong Energy Condition)
 - $\Lambda \leq 0$

then $\frac{d\theta}{d\tau} \leq 0$

and the geodesics converge!

If $\Lambda > 0$ this helps push geodesics apart, which happens owing to (accelerated) expansion.

ENERGY CONDITIONS

(4.1) For a perfect fluid, $T_{\mu\nu}^{(p.f.)} = (\rho + p)u_\mu u_\nu + pg_{\mu\nu}$

Pressure is isotropic so $T_{\mu\nu}t^\mu t^\nu \geq 0 \quad \forall$ timelike t^μ
 if both $T_{\mu\nu}u^\mu u^\nu \geq 0$
 and $T_{\mu\nu}l^\mu l^\nu \geq 0 \quad \exists$ null vector l^μ .

Regard $\begin{cases} T_{\mu\nu}u^\mu u^\nu = \rho \\ T_{\mu\nu}l^\mu l^\nu = (\rho + p)(u_\mu l^\mu)^2 \end{cases}$

so we've just said $T_{\mu\nu}t^\mu t^\nu \geq 0 \Rightarrow \rho \geq 0 \text{ \& } (\rho + p) \geq 0$.

This is called the Weak Energy Condition.
 others include (& perfect fluid examples :-)

(4.2) • WEC: weak energy condition
 $T_{\mu\nu}t^\mu t^\nu \geq 0 \quad \forall t^\mu$ timelike vectors
 ($\rho \geq 0$ and $\rho + p \geq 0$)

(4.3) • NEC: null energy condition
 $T_{\mu\nu}l^\mu l^\nu \geq 0 \quad \forall l^\mu$ null vectors
 ($\rho + p \geq 0$; note that here p can be < 0)

(4.4) • DEC: dominant energy condition
 $T_{\mu\nu}t^\mu t^\nu \geq 0 \quad \forall t^\mu$ timelike AND $T_{\mu\nu}T^\nu{}_\lambda t^\mu t^\lambda \geq 0$
 i.e. $T^{\mu\nu}t_\mu$ non-spacelike. ($\rho \geq |p|$).

(4.5) • NDEC: null dominant energy condition
 $T_{\mu\nu}l^\mu l^\nu \geq 0 \quad \forall l^\mu$ null vector AND $T^{\mu\nu}l_\mu$
 Same as DEC but allows $p = -\rho$. } non-spacelike.

(4.6) • SEC: strong energy condition
 $T_{\mu\nu}t^\mu t^\nu \geq [(D-2)/2] T^\lambda{}_\lambda t^\sigma t_\sigma \quad \forall t^\mu$ timelike
 ($\rho + p \geq 0$ and $3\rho + p \geq 0$)

(gravity attractive!)