

# Carroll symmetry in field theory and gravity

Carroll workshop, Vienna, February 16, 2022

Niels Obers (NBI & Nordita)



THE VELUX FOUNDATIONS  
VILLUM FONDEN × VELUX FONDEN

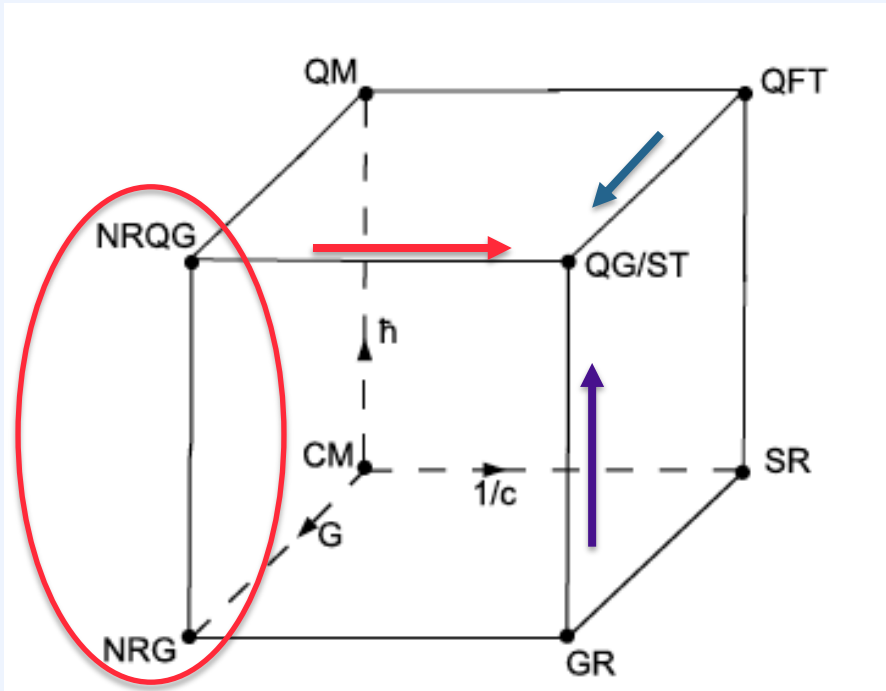
based on work

2110.02319 J. de Boer (Amsterdam), J. Hartong (Edinburgh) W. Sybesma (Iceland), S. Vandoren (Utrecht)

2112.12684 D. Hansen (ETH), G. Oling (Nordita), Benjamin T. Sogaard (Princeton), S. Vandoren (Utrecht)

# Cube of physical theories

$(\hbar, G_N, 1/c)$



a third route towards  
(relativistic) quantum gravity

how does this fit with  
string theory/holography ?

already (classical) non-relativistic gravity (NRG) is more than just  
Newtonian gravity

-> uses Newton-Cartan geometry (and torsional generalization)

# What about small speed of light limit ?

Carroll limit:

zero speed of light contraction of Poincare

running (boosting) without moving:

Red Queens race of L. Carroll's Through the looking glass

Levy-Leblond(1965)

→ expand relativistic theories around  $c=0$ :

what do we get ? what can we use it for ?

(Carroll symmetry as organizing principle for perturbative expansion around  $c=0$ )

terminology: this is not ultra-relativistic limit ( $v/c \rightarrow 1$ )

rather ultra-local limit

# Intro

Carroll group is kinematical group  $\rightarrow$  Carrollian manifolds

(timelike and spacelike) vielbeine transforming under local Carroll boosts

[Bekaert,Morand,2015/Hartong,2015/Figueroa-O'Farrill,Prohazka,2018](#)

example: null hypersurfaces

e.g. null infinity of asymptotically flat spacetime

[Duvall,Gibbons,Horvathy,2014](#)

# Examples

- black hole membrane paradigm  
[Donnay,Marteau,2019],[Penna,2018]
- (3D) flat space holography  
[Bagchi,Detournay,Fareghbal,Simon,2012],[Hartong,2015],  
[Ciambella,Marteau,Petkou,Petropoulos,Siampos,2018],  
& 4D: [Donnay,Fiorucci,Herfray,Ruzziconi]
- tensionless limits of strings  
[Bagchi,2013]
- limits of GR  
[Henneaux,1979],[Bergshoeff,Gomis,Rollier,ter Veldhuis,2017],  
[Henneaux,Salgado-Rebolledo,2021],[Perez,2021],[Hansen et al, 2021]
- inflationary cosmology  
[de Boer,Hartong,Obers,Sybesma,Vandoren,2021]
- setups with: effective speed of light (characteristic speed)  $\ll$  velocity

# Plan

- Carroll symmetries, Carroll particles and Ward identity
- Carroll field theories
- $c \rightarrow \infty/0$  expansion of GR and NC/Carroll geometry
- Carroll perfect fluids on Carroll geometry
- Outlook

# Carroll algebra

• Lorentz transformations of energy & momentum:

$$\vec{p}'_{\parallel} = \gamma_{\beta} \left( \vec{p}_{\parallel} - \vec{\beta} \frac{E}{c} \right), \quad \vec{p}'_{\perp} = \vec{p}_{\perp}, \quad \frac{E'}{c} = \gamma_{\beta} \left( \frac{E}{c} - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{p} \right),$$

under

Carroll limit:

$$\vec{p}' = \vec{p} - \vec{b} E, \quad E' = E.$$

Carroll algebra: generators  $H, P_i, C_i, J_{ij}$

$$[P_i, C_j] = \delta_{ij} H, \quad \leftarrow \text{central element}$$

$$[J_{ij}, P_k] = \delta_{ik} P_j - \delta_{jk} P_i,$$

$$[J_{ij}, C_k] = \delta_{ik} C_j - \delta_{jk} C_i,$$

$$[J_{ij}, J_{kl}] = \delta_{ik} J_{jl} - \delta_{jk} J_{il} + \delta_{jl} J_{ik} - \delta_{il} J_{jk},$$

# Energy momentum tensor & Zero energy flux

• on-shell conserved currents :

$$\partial_\mu (T^\mu{}_\nu K^\nu) = 0$$

EM  
tensor

generators: (Killing vectors of flat Carroll spacetime)

$$H = \partial_t, \quad P_i = \partial_i, \quad C_i = x^i \partial_t, \quad J_{ij} = x^i \partial_j - x^j \partial_i$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_\mu T^\mu{}_\nu = 0, \quad T^i{}_t = 0, \quad T^i{}_j = T^j{}_i$$

$$\frac{1}{c} T^i{}_t + c T^t{}_i = 0,$$

energy flux  
must vanish

follows also from  
 $c \rightarrow 0$  limit of  
relativistic property

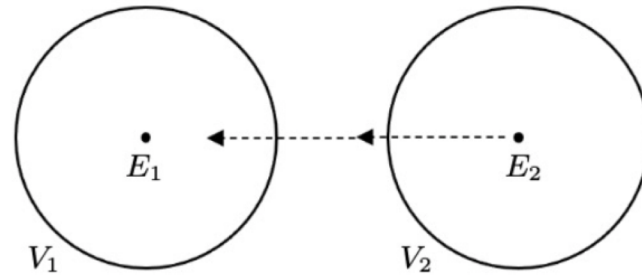
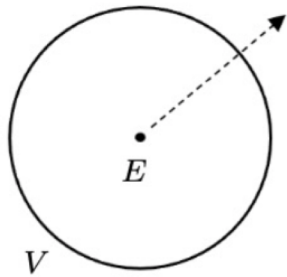


# Carroll particles

two types of particles (from limit of free relativistic particles)

- $E = E_0 = \underbrace{mc^2}_{\text{fixed}}, \quad \vec{p} = 0.$

- $E = 0, \quad \vec{p} = \pm p_0 \vec{n}. \quad p_0 \equiv \underbrace{-imc}_{\text{fixed}}. \quad (\text{from tachyon})$



- $E \neq 0 \rightarrow$  cannot move
- if it can move  $\rightarrow E = 0$

# Carroll (scalar) field theory

equivalent

$\chi =$  Lagrange mult.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2c^2} (\partial_t \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\partial_i \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \iff \mathcal{L} = -\frac{c^2}{2} \chi^2 + \chi \partial_t \phi - \frac{1}{2} (\partial_i \phi)^2 - V(\phi).$$

↓ Carroll limit

↓ Carroll limit

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 - \tilde{V}(\phi)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \chi \dot{\phi} - \frac{1}{2} (\partial_i \phi)^2 - V(\phi).$$

$$\delta \phi = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{x} \dot{\phi}, \quad \delta \chi = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{x} \dot{\chi} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{\partial} \phi.$$

missing gradient term  
 $\Rightarrow$  zero energy flux:

$$\delta \chi \rightarrow \dot{\phi} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  energy flux = 0

$$T^t_t = -\left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}_0^2 + V\right), \quad T^i_t = 0,$$

$$T^t_i = -\dot{\phi}_0 \partial_i \phi_0, \quad T^i_j = \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}_0^2 - V\right) \delta^i_j.$$

$\leadsto E \neq 0$  irrep

$\leadsto E = 0$  irrep

## 2-point functions

General solution of WI's for 2-pt. fun.  
two classes:

- $\langle O(t, \vec{x}) O(0, 0) \rangle = F(t) \delta(\vec{x}) \quad \rightsquigarrow E \neq 0$

- $\langle O(t, \vec{x}) O(0, 0) \rangle = f(|\vec{x}|), \quad \rightsquigarrow E = 0$

## Carroll E&M (electric limit)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2c^2}(E^i)^2 - \frac{1}{4}(F_{ij})^2, \quad \overset{\text{Carroll}}{\Rightarrow} \quad \boxed{\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}E_i E_i}, \quad E_i = \partial_i E_t - \partial_t E_i$$

$$\delta A_t = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{x} \partial_t A_t, \quad \delta A_i = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{x} \partial_t A_i + b_i A_t$$

- energy-momentum tensor:

$$T^t_t = -\frac{1}{2}(E^i)^2, \quad T^i_t = 0,$$

$$T^t_j = (\vec{E} \times \vec{B})_j, \quad T^i_j = -E^i E_j + \frac{1}{2}(E^i)^2 \delta^i_j,$$

- EOM

$$\partial_i B_i = 0, \quad \partial_t B_i + (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E})_i = 0.$$

$$\partial_i E_i = 0, \quad \partial_t E_i = 0,$$

← Ampère law  
without  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}$

## Carroll E&M (magnetic limit)

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{c^2}{2}\chi_i\chi_i + \chi_i E_i - \frac{1}{4}(F_{ij})^2. \quad \overset{\text{Carroll}}{\Rightarrow} \quad \mathcal{L} = \chi_i E_i - \frac{1}{4}(F_{ij})^2.$$

$$\delta\chi_j = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{x} \partial_t \chi_j + (\vec{b} \times \vec{B})_j,$$

• energy-momentum tensor:

$$T^t_t = -\frac{1}{2}(B_i)^2, \quad T^i_t = 0,$$

$$T^t_j = (\vec{\chi} \times \vec{B})_j, \quad T^i_j = -B_i B_j + \frac{1}{2}(B_k)^2 \delta^i_j,$$

• EOM

$$\partial_i B_i = 0, \quad \partial_t B_i = 0,$$

$$\partial_i \chi_i = 0, \quad -\partial_t \chi_i + (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B})_i = 0.$$

← Faraday's law  
without  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}$

## Carroll fields in 2D

- 1 + 1 dimensions: Carroll algebra allows central extension
- Let  $i, j = 1 \dots 2n$  &  $\omega_{ij} = -\omega_{ji}$  constant invertible matrix

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\tau X^i \partial_\tau X^i - \omega_{ij} X^i \partial_\sigma X^j$$

Carroll invariant:  $\delta X^i = b\sigma \partial_\tau X^i - b\tau \omega_{ij} X^j$

- This model can be obtained as gauged fixed version of Polyakov-type theory for closed string with Carrollian world-sheet

Bidussi, Harmark, Hartong, NO, Oling, to appear

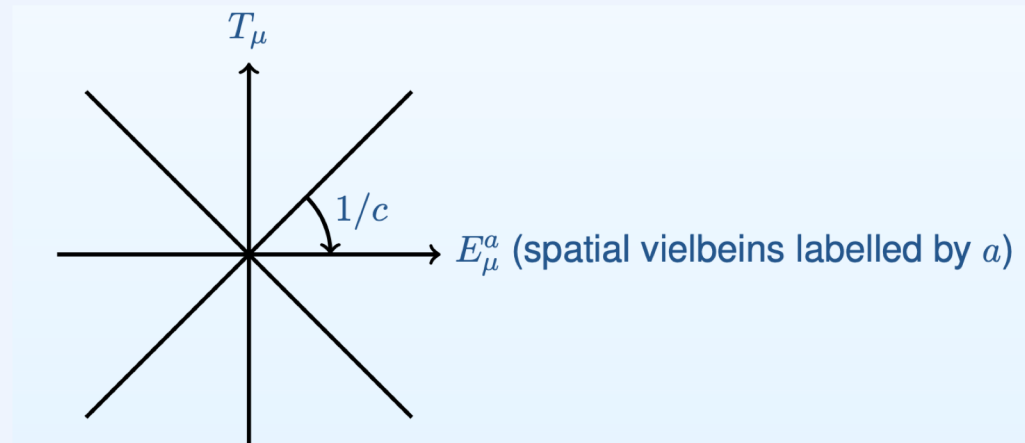
- non-relativistic gravity from  $1/c$  expansion
- ultralocal/Carroll gravity from  $c$  expansion

# speed of light dependence in GR

metric:  $g_{\mu\nu} = -c^2 T_\mu T_\nu + \Pi_{\mu\nu}$

$T$  = time-like vielbein

$\Pi$  = spatial metric



large speed of light  $\rightarrow$  light-cone opens up

expand in  $\sigma = 1/c^2$ .

small speed of light  $\rightarrow$  light-cone closes up



# pre-non-relativistic GR

rewrite GR in terms of  $T$  and  $\Pi$ :

new choice of connection:

$$C_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} = -T^{\rho}\partial_{\mu}T_{\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\Pi^{\rho\sigma}(\partial_{\mu}\Pi_{\nu\sigma} + \partial_{\nu}\Pi_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_{\sigma}\Pi_{\mu\nu})$$

has **torsion**: proportional to:

$$T_{\mu\nu} \equiv \partial_{\mu}T_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}T_{\mu}.$$

analogue of **metric compatibility**

$$\overset{(C)}{\nabla}_{\mu}T_{\nu} = 0, \quad \overset{(C)}{\nabla}_{\mu}\Pi^{\nu\rho} = 0,$$

**EH Lagrangian** in pre-non-relativistic form

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = E \left[ \frac{1}{4}\Pi^{\mu\nu}\Pi^{\rho\sigma}T_{\mu\rho}T_{\nu\sigma} + \sigma\Pi^{\mu\nu}\overset{(C)}{R}_{\mu\nu} - \sigma^2T^{\mu}T^{\nu}\overset{(C)}{R}_{\mu\nu} \right]$$

recent progress: understand this in 1st order formulation of GR

# NR gravity from large $c$ expansion of GR

metric in GR depends on speed of light  $c$ :  
expand in  $1/c$

Dautcourt (1996)  
van den Bleeken(2017)  
Hansen,Hartong,NO(2018,2020)

$$g_{\mu\nu} = -c^2\tau_\mu\tau_\nu + h_{\mu\nu} - m_\mu\tau_\nu - m_\nu\tau_\mu + \frac{1}{c^2} (B_\mu\tau_\nu + B_\nu\tau_\mu - \Phi_{\mu\nu}) + O(c^{-4})$$

- LO and NLO fields define a novel version of NC geometry

LO fields:

$$\tau_\mu \quad h_{\mu\nu}$$

NLO fields:

$$m_\mu \quad \Phi_{\mu\nu}$$

- expand Einstein-Hilbert action of GR:

$$S_{\text{EH}} = -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R$$

# Lagrangian expansion

- basic expansion structure (for any type of field)

$$\phi^I(x; \sigma) = \phi_{(0)}^I(x) + \sigma \phi_{(2)}^I(x) + \sigma^2 \phi_{(4)}^I(x) + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^3)$$

$$\sigma = 1/c^2$$

**Lagrangian:** factor out overall c-power and expand:

$$\mathcal{L}(c^2, \phi, \partial_\mu \phi) = c^N \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\sigma) = c^N \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{(-N)} + c^{N-2} \mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}}^{(2-N)} + c^{N-4} \mathcal{L}_{\text{NNLO}}^{(4-N)} + \mathcal{O}(c^{N-6}),$$

• first terms:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{(-N)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(0) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{(-N)}(\phi_{(0)}, \partial_\mu \phi_{(0)}) \\ \mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}}^{(2-N)} &= \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathcal{L}}}{\partial \sigma} \right|_{\sigma=0} + \phi_{(2)}^{(-N)} \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{(-N)}}{\delta \phi_{(0)}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma = 1/c^2$$

EOM of the **NLO** field of **NLO** Lagrangian  
 = EOM of **LO** field of **LO** Lagrangian  
 (cascading structure repeats at every order)

→ at particular order: **take action at that order and forget about the previous orders**

# NR expansion of EH Lagrangian

expansion of EH:  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}} = \frac{c^6}{16\pi G} [\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}} + \sigma \mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}} + \sigma^2 \mathcal{L}_{\text{N}^2\text{LO}} + O(\sigma^3)]$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}} = \frac{e}{4} h^{\mu\nu} h^{\rho\sigma} \tau_{\mu\rho} \tau_{\nu\sigma}$$

$$\tau_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \tau_\nu - \partial_\nu \tau_\mu$$

EOM enforce  
TTNC (causality)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}} = e h^{\mu\nu} \check{R}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}}{\delta \tau_\mu} m_\mu + \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}}{\delta h_{\mu\nu}} \Phi_{\mu\nu}$$

Galilean gravity

(see also [Bergshoeff et al \(2017\)](#)  
for 1st order formalism)

# Non-relativistic Gravity Action

for EOM of NNLO involving only NLO fields we can use TTNC off-shell  
(using Lagrange multiplier)

$$\mathcal{L} = e \left[ -v^\mu v^\nu \check{R}_{\mu\nu} - 2m_\nu \check{\nabla}_\mu (h^{\mu\rho} h^{\nu\sigma} - h^{\mu\nu} h^{\rho\sigma}) K_{\rho\sigma} + \Phi h^{\mu\nu} \check{R}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} h^{\mu\rho} h^{\nu\sigma} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} - \Phi_{\rho\sigma} h^{\mu\rho} h^{\nu\sigma} \left( \check{R}_{\mu\nu} - \check{\nabla}_\mu a_\nu - a_\mu a_\nu - \frac{1}{2} h_{\mu\nu} h^{\kappa\lambda} \check{R}_{\kappa\lambda} + h_{\mu\nu} e^{-1} \partial_\kappa (e h^{\kappa\lambda} a_\lambda) \right) \right], \quad (27)$$


- **resulting action** (unique 2-derivative action of fields  $\tau_\mu, h_{\mu\nu}, m_\mu, \Phi_{\mu\nu}$  respecting all invariances)

can be rewritten in manifest (Milne) boost invariant quantities:

# Action of non-relativistic gravity (NRG)

expand Einstein-Hilbert action of GR

leading order  $\rightarrow$  EOMs imply causality

next-to-leading order: bifurcation in either  absolute time  
(depends on the matter sources) hypersurface orthogonality

- NNLO gives NRG action:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{16\pi G} e \left[ \hat{v}^\mu \hat{v}^\nu \bar{R}_{\mu\nu} - \tilde{\Phi} h^{\mu\nu} \bar{R}_{\mu\nu} - \Phi_{\mu\nu} h^{\mu\rho} h^{\nu\sigma} (\bar{R}_{\rho\sigma} - a_\rho a_\sigma - \bar{\nabla}_\rho a_\sigma) + \frac{1}{2} \Phi_{\mu\nu} h^{\mu\nu} [h^{\rho\sigma} \bar{R}_{\rho\sigma} - 2e^{-1} \partial_\rho (e h^{\rho\sigma} a_\sigma)] \right]$$

- for the first time an action principle for Newtonian gravity !
- goes beyond by allowing for strong gravity (gravitational time dilation)

# Coupling of matter to NRG

coupling of matter: perform  $1/c$  expansion of relativistic matter  
e.g. point particles, scalar/vector fields, fluids, ...

- simplest case: non-relativistic point particle

$$-m \int d\lambda \delta(x - x(\lambda)) \tau_\mu \dot{x}^\mu$$

EOMs of the total action give:

- time = absolute
- Newton's Poisson equation

# Punchline (for large speed of light expansion)

new version of TNC (type II) is what the large  $c$  expansion of GR tells us to do !

What does it achieve ?

- while Cartan's original geometry can geometrize EOMS, it cannot be used to define the theory off-shell  
→ needed for the action (analogue of EH action for NRG)
- the NRG action can then simply be obtained by doing the (right) expansion of GR (see below)
- what replaces Poincare invariance ?  
→ new symmetry algebra that follows from Poincare from a well-defined procedure (Lie algebra expansion of Poincare)  
(principle which can be used to geometrize any Post-Newtonian order)



- opposite case: Carrollian expansion of GR

Hansen,NO,Oling,Søgaard (2112.12684)

see also recent works:

Henneaux,Salgado-Rebolledo/Perez (2021)

→ talk later today by Gerben Oling

# Carroll geometry

- PUR (pre-"ultra-relativistic") expansion of pseudo-Riem. geometry:  

$$g_{\mu\nu} = -c^2 T_\mu T_\nu + \Pi_{\mu\nu}, \quad g^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{c^2} V^\mu V^\nu + \Pi^{\mu\nu}.$$

- $c \rightarrow 0$  expansion:  

$$V^\mu = v^\mu + c^2 M^\mu + \mathcal{O}(c^4),$$

$$\Pi^{\mu\nu} = h^{\mu\nu} + c^2 \Phi^{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}(c^4),$$
NLO fields

$$T_\mu = \tau_\mu + \mathcal{O}(c^2)$$

$$\Pi_{\mu\nu} = h_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}(c^2),$$

→ LO fields: Carrollian geometry.

$$\tau_\mu v^\mu = -1, \quad \tau_\mu h^{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad h_{\mu\nu} v^\nu = 0, \quad \delta_\nu^\mu = -v^\mu \tau_\nu + h^{\mu\rho} h_{\rho\nu}.$$

$$h^{\mu\nu} = \delta^{ab} e_a^\mu e_b^\nu.$$

- transformation of Carrollian geometry fields under Carroll boosts:

$$\delta\tau_\mu = \lambda_a e_\mu^a \quad \delta h^{\mu\nu} = v^\mu e_a^\nu \lambda^a + v^\nu e_a^\mu \lambda^a. \quad \delta M^\mu = \lambda^a e_a^\mu$$

∴  $h_{\mu\nu}, v^\mu$  are left invariant.

# Preferred connection and EH action

• Convenient PUK connection:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{C}_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} &= -V^{\rho}\partial_{(\mu}T_{\nu)} - V^{\rho}T_{(\mu}\mathcal{L}_V T_{\nu)} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\Pi^{\rho\lambda}[\partial_{\mu}\Pi_{\nu\lambda} + \partial_{\nu}\Pi_{\lambda\mu} - \partial_{\lambda}\Pi_{\mu\nu}] - \Pi^{\rho\lambda}T_{\nu}K_{\mu\lambda},\end{aligned}$$

• yields the Carrollian ( $c \rightarrow 0$ ) (minimal torsion) connection:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_{\mu\nu} &= -\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_V\Pi_{\mu\nu}. \\ &\text{Extrinsic curvature.} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\Gamma}_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} &= \tilde{C}_{\mu\nu}^{\rho}\Big|_{c=0} = -v^{\rho}\partial_{(\mu}\tau_{\nu)} - v^{\rho}\tau_{(\mu}\mathcal{L}_v\tau_{\nu)} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}h^{\rho\lambda}[\partial_{\mu}h_{\nu\lambda} + \partial_{\nu}h_{\lambda\mu} - \partial_{\lambda}h_{\mu\nu}] - h^{\rho\lambda}\tau_{\nu}K_{\mu\lambda}, \\ \tilde{\nabla}_{\mu}v^{\mu} &= 0, \quad \tilde{\nabla}_{\rho}h_{\mu\nu}.\end{aligned}$$

← metric compatibility.

• Einstein-Hilbert in the PUK variables:

$$R \approx \frac{1}{c^2}(\mathcal{K}^{\mu\nu}\mathcal{K}_{\mu\nu} - \mathcal{K}^2) + \Pi^{\mu\nu}\overset{\text{C}}{R}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{c}{4}\Pi^{\mu\nu}\Pi^{\rho\sigma}(dT)_{\mu\rho}(dT)_{\nu\sigma},$$

## LO and NLO action

- expand  $R$  for  $c \rightarrow 0$ ; LO action:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{(2)} = \frac{e}{16\pi G_N} \left[ K^{\mu\nu} K_{\mu\nu} - K^2 \right],$$

Henneaux, 1979

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{(2)} = \frac{e}{8\pi G_N} \left[ G_{\mu}^v \delta v^{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} G_{\mu\nu}^h \delta h^{\mu\nu} \right],$$

$$G_{\mu}^v = -\frac{1}{2} \tau_{\mu} (K^{\rho\sigma} K_{\rho\sigma} - K^2) + h^{\gamma\lambda} \tilde{\nabla}_{\lambda} (K_{\mu\gamma} - K h_{\mu\gamma}),$$

$$G_{\mu\nu}^h = -\frac{1}{2} h_{\mu\nu} (K^{\rho\sigma} K_{\rho\sigma} - K^2) + K (K_{\mu\nu} - K h_{\mu\nu}) - v^{\rho} \tilde{\nabla}_{\rho} (K_{\mu\nu} - K h_{\mu\nu}).$$

- NLO action:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}}^{(4)} = \frac{e}{8\pi G_N} \left[ \frac{1}{2} h^{\mu\nu} \tilde{R}_{\mu\nu} + G_{\mu}^v M^{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} G_{\mu\nu}^h \Phi^{\mu\nu} \right].$$

see also: Bergshoeff et al, 2017

- Carroll fluids

de Boer et al (2021 & to appear)

see also:

de Boer et al (2017)

Ciambelli, Marteau, Petkou, Petropoulos, Siampos (2018, 2018)

Donnay, Marteau (2019)

Ciambelli, Marteau, Petropoulos, Ruzziconi (2020)

# Carroll perfect fluids

- Most general perfect fluid (in LAB frame) :

$$T^t_t = -\mathcal{E}, \quad T^i_t = -(\mathcal{E} + P)v^i, \quad T^t_j = \mathcal{P}_j, \quad T^i_j = P\delta^i_j + v^i\mathcal{P}_j.$$

de Boer, Haratong, NO, Sybesma, Vandoren, 2017

momentum density:  $\mathcal{P}_i = \rho v_i$

fluid variables:  $T, v_i$

$$\mathcal{P}'_i = \rho' v'^i = \rho' \frac{v^i}{1 - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{v}} = \rho v^i (1 - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{v}) - b_i (\mathcal{E} + P),$$

transforms  
under  
Carrollian  
boosts.

$$\mathcal{E} + P = 0.$$

for any  
Carroll fluid!

reminiscent of dark energy eq. of state  
 $w = -1$

# Carroll perfect fluids on curved spacetime

three derivations:

- expand relativistic perfect fluid

in analogy with the two types of Carroll particles:

→ can take timelike or spacelike fluid velocity vector

- **hydrostatic partition function**
- null hypersurfaces

# Hydrostatic partition function

most elegant/highlights the power of (Carroll) geometry

1st law of thermodynamics (general perfect fluid)

$$\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = \mathcal{E} - \rho u^2 = Ts - P, \quad d\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = Tds - \frac{1}{2}\rho du^2$$

define:

$$\tilde{T} = T/\sqrt{1 - u^2/c^2} \text{ and } \tilde{s} = s\sqrt{1 - u^2/c^2},$$

→

$$\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = \tilde{s}\tilde{T} - P, \quad \tilde{s} = \frac{dP}{d\tilde{T}}.$$



# Energy momentum tensor

general variation of Lagrangian coupling to Carroll geometry

$$\delta\mathcal{L} = e \left( -T^\mu \delta\tau_\mu + \frac{1}{2} T^{\mu\nu} \delta h_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

EM tensor

$$T^\mu{}_\nu = -T^\mu \tau_\nu + T^{\mu\rho} h_{\rho\nu} .$$

Carroll boost invariant  
(zero energy flux)

$$(T_{\text{Car}})^\mu{}_\nu v^\nu e_\mu^a = 0$$

diffeo Ward identity

$$e^{-1} \partial_\mu (e T^\mu{}_\rho) + T^\mu \partial_\rho \tau_\mu - \frac{1}{2} T^{\mu\nu} \partial_\rho h_{\mu\nu} = 0 ,$$

# Two Carroll perfect fluid stress tensor(s)

simplest hydrostatic partition function  
(in derivative expansion)

$$\mathcal{L} = e\tilde{P}(\tilde{T}).$$

choice 1) Killing vector

$$\beta^\mu = \frac{u^\mu}{T}$$

$$\tau_\mu u^\mu = 1.$$

$$\beta^\mu \beta^\nu h_{\mu\nu} = \frac{u^2}{T^2} = \frac{1}{\tilde{T}^2}$$

from action

(using 1st law)

$$T^\mu = P v^\mu, \quad T^{\mu\nu} = P h^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{E}} + P}{u^2} u^\mu u^\nu$$

$$\rightarrow (T_{\text{Car}})^\mu{}_\nu = P \delta^\mu{}_\nu - \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{E}} + P}{u^2} u^\mu u^\nu h_{\rho\nu}.$$

choice 2)

$$\beta^\mu = -\frac{1}{\tilde{T}} v^\mu$$

$$\rightarrow (T_{\text{Car}})^\mu{}_\nu = P \delta^\mu{}_\nu.$$

physically distinct; both satisfy

$$\mathcal{E} := (T_{\text{Car}})^\mu{}_\nu v^\nu \tau_\mu = -P.$$

# Outlook

- Carroll strings
- Tensionless strings
- Flat space Holography
- solutions of small speed of light GR (see talk Gerben Oling)
- Cosmology and Carroll gravity
- Carroll fluids in curved spacetime  
[de Boer et al, in progress]
- applications to supersonic behavior ?

The End

Thank you for your attention !



# Null hypersurfaces

- Carrollian geometry can also be obtained from metric structure on null hypersurface.  $u = \text{const.}$

$$ds^2 = 2du (\bar{\Phi} du - \hat{\tau}_\mu dx^\mu) + h_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu,$$

$$\bar{\Phi} = -\tau_\rho M^\rho + \frac{1}{2} h_{\rho\sigma} M^\rho M^\sigma \text{ and } \hat{\tau}_\mu = \tau_\mu - h_{\mu\nu} M^\nu$$

- Local Lorentz trafo's that leave  $\perp$  1-form  $du$  invariant (i.e. null rotations)  $\Rightarrow$  Carroll transformations



# Carroll in cosmology

- Hubble law:  $v = Hd.$

- Hubble radius:  $R_H = cH^{-1},$

for  $d \gg R_H \Rightarrow v \gg c$

$\Rightarrow$  super Hubble scales are Carrollian.

$c \rightarrow 0$ : Hubble radius vanishes  $\leadsto$  entire universe is super-Hubble  
(ultra-local limit)

- expanding away from  $c=0$ :

Hubble cells grow containing more and more d.o.f.



# Friedman equations and dark energy

• from Fr. eqs:

$$\mathcal{E} + P = \frac{3c^2}{8\pi G_N} (1+w)H^2(t) \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho = \frac{3}{8\pi G_N} (1+w)H^2(t),$$

• cosmological model based on scalar field:

$$w = \frac{\frac{1}{2c^2}\dot{\phi}^2 - V(\phi)}{\frac{1}{2c^2}\dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Carroll} \\ \text{perspective} \end{array} \right. \quad w = \frac{\frac{1}{2}c^2\pi_\phi^2 - V(\phi)}{\frac{1}{2}c^2\pi_\phi^2 + V(\phi)} = -1 + \frac{\pi_\phi^2}{V} c^2 + \mathcal{O}(c^4).$$

•  $\Lambda = \text{fixed}$  so:

$$G_C \equiv \frac{G_N}{c^2}, \quad H^2 = \frac{8\pi G_C}{3} \Lambda, \quad G_C \text{ fixed.}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \pi_\phi = \frac{1}{c^2}\dot{\phi}, = \text{finite } (\dot{\phi} \rightarrow 0) \\ \text{assume } V \neq 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} \downarrow \\ \text{slow} \\ \text{roll} \end{array}$$

• Hubble radius

$$R_H = cH^{-1} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{8\pi G_C \Lambda}} \rightarrow 0,$$

de Sitter patch

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + e^{2Ht} d\vec{x}^2,$$

$\Rightarrow$

conformal to  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$ds^2 = e^{Ht} d\vec{x}^2.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} T = \text{const.} \\ S \sim c^3 \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right.$$

## Scalar field with $w=1$

• free scalar field with  $V=0$ : take  $c \rightarrow 0$  limit

from  
KG eq:  $\pi_\phi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{12\pi G_N} \frac{1}{(t + a_1/a_0)}}$ ,

$\Rightarrow \phi(t) = \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{12\pi G_N}} \ln(t + a_1/a_0) + \phi_0.$   $\rightarrow$  constant  
in  $c \rightarrow 0$  limit

energy density:

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2} c^2 \pi_\phi^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

still

$$\mathcal{E} + P = 0$$

but both  $\mathcal{E} = P = 0$

(even for non-inflationary metrics:  $\exists$  super Hubble scales)

# Inflation

- $w$  time dependent:

Consider chaotic inflation

$$H^2 = \frac{4\pi G_N}{3} \left( \pi_\phi^2 + \frac{m^2 \phi^2}{\hbar^2} \right),$$

$$\pi_\phi + 3H\pi_\phi + \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} \phi = 0.$$

F. eq.

Scalar field eq.

expand:

$$\phi = \phi_0 + c^2 \phi_1 + \dots, \quad \pi_\phi = \frac{1}{c^2} \dot{\phi}_0 + \dot{\phi}_1 + \dots, \quad H = H_0 + c^2 H_1 + \dots,$$

$$G_C \equiv \frac{G_N}{c^2}, \quad \mu \equiv \frac{mc}{\hbar},$$

- LO & NLO solution reproduce inflationary solutions: (early time)

$$H_0^2 = \frac{4\pi G_C}{3} \mu^2 \phi_0^2,$$

$$\phi_1(t) = -\frac{\mu^2}{3H_0} \phi_0 t.$$

$$H_1 = \frac{\mu^2}{18H_0} - \frac{1}{3} \mu^2 t,$$

- Inflationary solutions are attracted to  $w = -1$  in Carroll lim.!
- Freeze out of scalar perturbations in 2-pt. fn



## Irreps of Carroll algebra (d=3)

• eigenstates of Casimirs:

$H$  and  $W_i W_i$  :

$$W_i = H S_i + \epsilon_{ijk} C_j P_k$$

• Consider energy-momentum eigenstates  $(E, p_i)$

When  $E \neq 0$  we can always go to a frame where  $p_i = 0$  by performing a Carroll boost. In this case the little group is  $SO(3)$  and the eigenvalues of  $W_i W_i$  are  $E^2 s(s+1)$  with  $s = 0, 1/2, 1, \dots$

When  $E = 0$  the momentum  $p_i$  is Carroll boost invariant. Using a rotation we can WLOG set  $\vec{p} = p \hat{e}_3$ . On such states  $W_i = \epsilon_{ijk} C_j P_k$  so that  $W_3 = 0$ . The little group is  $ISO(2)$  generated by  $W_1, W_2, L$  where  $L = P_i S_i$  (helicity).



# Field theory on curved spacetime

Coupling to a background metric is powerful tool in relativistic theories (QED, QCD ,.. )

→ putting the field theory on a curved spacetime

$$\delta S_{\text{rel.matter}} \sim \int d^4x T_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\mu\nu}$$

- responses to varying metric gives energy-momentum tensor
- can find Ward identities as consequence of symmetries
- organizing principle for effective theories/hydrodynamics

# Schroedinger field coupled to Newton-Cartan

simplest case: complex non-relativistic scalar field (Schroedinger field)

$$S_{\text{Schr.}} \sim \int d^4x [i\psi^\dagger \partial_t \psi - \frac{1}{2m} \nabla \psi \nabla \psi^\dagger] + \text{h.c.}$$

covariant coupling to background Newton-Cartan geometry:

$$S_{\text{Schr.}}^{\text{NC}} \sim \int d^4x e \left[ i(\tau^\mu - h^{\mu\nu} m_\nu) \psi^\dagger \partial_\mu \psi - \frac{1}{2m} h^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \psi^\dagger \partial_\nu \psi \right] + \text{h.c.}$$

- enters Son's description of FQHE & interactions to EM field



# Hydrodynamics

Navier Stokes equation

→ covariant formulation in terms of hydrodynamics on curved Newton-Cartan spacetime



- has furthermore led to formulation of hydrodynamics for systems **without any boost symmetries**

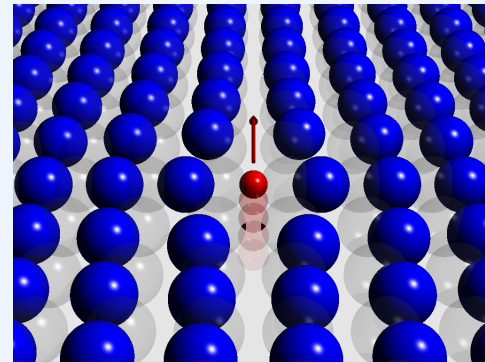
[de Boer et al (SciPost 2018)]

bird flocks in air



[e.g. J. Toner, Y. Tu, and S. Ramaswamy 2005]

electron gas moving in lattice of atoms



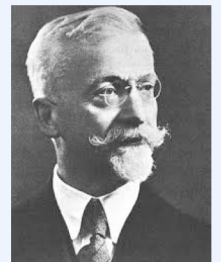
# Newton-Cartan geometry

Cartan (1923): Newtonian gravity written in frame-independent way  
using **Newton-Cartan geometry**

**local symmetries** of space and time  $\leftrightarrow$  **geometry** of space and time

Cartan: **Galilean**  $\leftrightarrow$  **Newton-Cartan geometry**

[Eisenhart, Trautman, Dautcourt, Kuenzle, Duval, Burdet, Perrin, Gibbons, Horvathy, Nicolai, Julia...] ..  
[Andrigha, Bergshoeff, Panda, deRoo (CQG 2011)]



Equivalence principle: freely falling observers see Galilean laws of physics

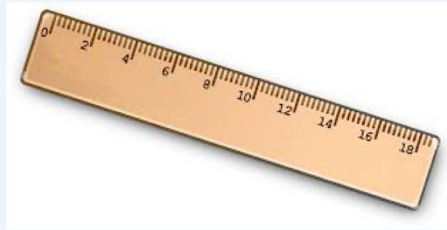
# Newton-Cartan geometric data

clock form:

 $\tau_\mu$ 

$$\tau_\mu h^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

spatial metric:  
(ruler)

 $h^{\mu\nu}$ 

vector field:  
(encodes Newtonian potential) .

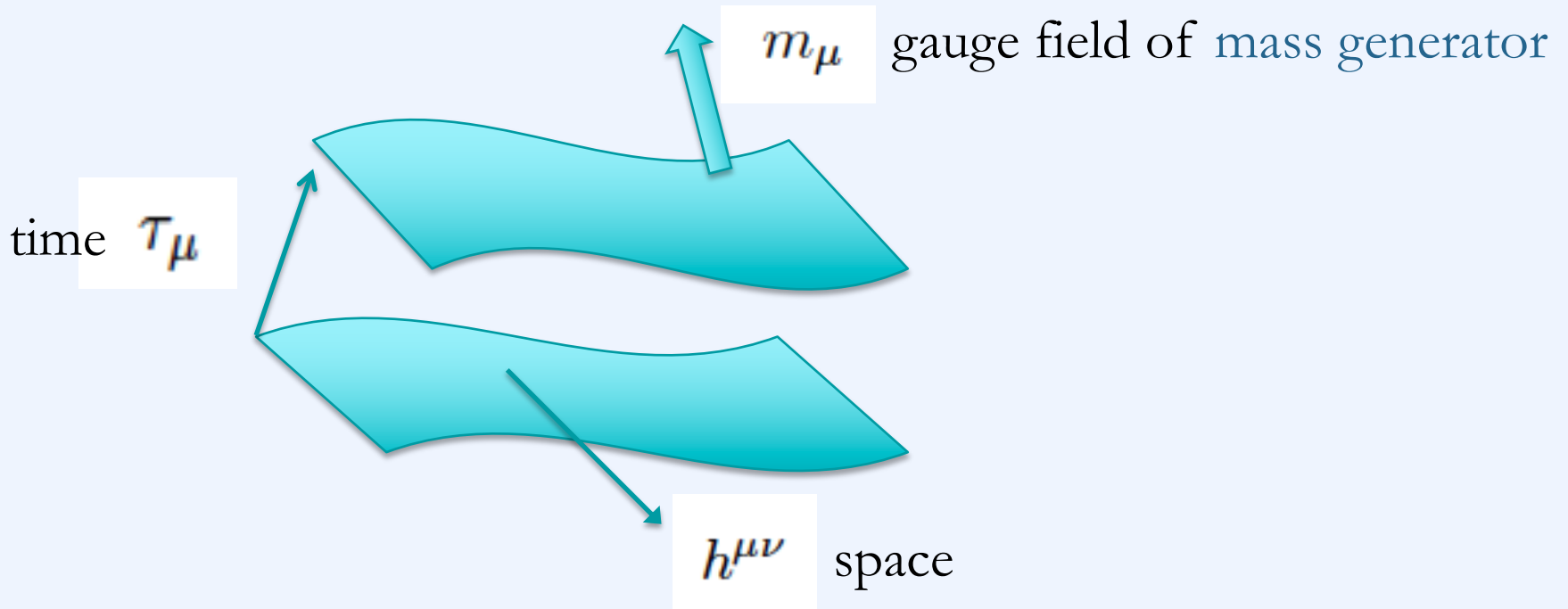
 $m_\mu$ 

- in Newtonian gravity time is absolute:

$$\partial_\mu \tau_\nu - \partial_\nu \tau_\mu = 0$$

- geometrizes Poisson equation of Newtonian gravity:

# Torsional Newton-Cartan geometry



NC = no torsion

$$\longrightarrow \tau_\mu = \partial_\mu t$$

absolute time

TTNC = twistless torsion

$$\longrightarrow \tau_\mu = \text{HSO}$$

preferred foliation  
equal time slices

TNC

no condition on  $\tau_\mu$

# Poisson equation of Newtonian gravity in NC form

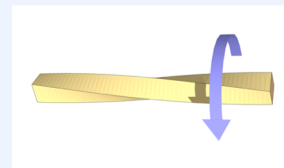
$$\bar{R}_{\mu\nu} = 4\pi G \rho_m \tau_\mu \tau_\nu$$

- with  $d\tau = 0$  (abs. time)

recent new insights: [Hansen,Hartong,NO (PRL 2019)]

- need different version of NC geometry to find action for Newtonian gravity
- follows from (careful) large speed expansion of GR
- goes beyond Newtonian gravity

inclusion of **torsion** essential



- new symmetry principle which can be used at any order in  $1/c$

# weak NR limit of Schwarzschild

Schw with factors of  $c$  reinstated

$$ds^2 = -c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2Gm}{c^2 r}\right) dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2Gm}{c^2 r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{S^2}$$

weak limit:  $m$  independent of  $c$

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_\mu dx^\mu &= dt, & h_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu &= dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{S^2} \\ m_\mu dx^\mu &= -\frac{Gm}{r} dt, & \Phi_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu &= \frac{2Gm}{r} dr^2\end{aligned}$$

point mass in flat space with Newtonian potential:  $\Phi = -Gm/r$

**absolute time:**  $\tau$  is exact

# strong NR limit of Schwarzschild

$m = c^2 M$ ;  $M$  independent of  $m$  (VdB, 2017)

$$\tau_\mu dx^\mu = \sqrt{1 - \frac{2GM}{r}} dt, \quad h_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \left(1 - \frac{2GM}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{S^2}$$
$$m_\mu dx^\mu = 0 = \Phi_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

this **strong expansion of Schw is not captured by Newtonian gravity:**  
- still described by NC geometry

different approx. of GR as compared to Post-Newtonian expansion  
(strong field)

tau no longer exact but: hypersurface orthogonal  $\tau \wedge d\tau = 0$

strong limit captures **gravitational time dilaton:**

clocks tick faster/slower depending on position on constant time slice

# Strong gravity in NRG

Strong gravity regime:

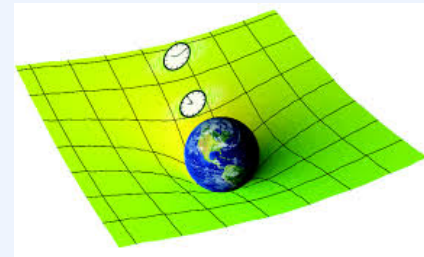
close to **compact object** with Schwarzschild radius  $R_s$

warping of time  $\rightarrow$  spacetime with **torsion**

$$\tau_t = - \left( 1 - \frac{R_s}{r} \right)$$

NR geodesics pass 3 classical tests of GR:

- precession perihelium
- bending of light
- gravitational redshift



but: no gravitational waves

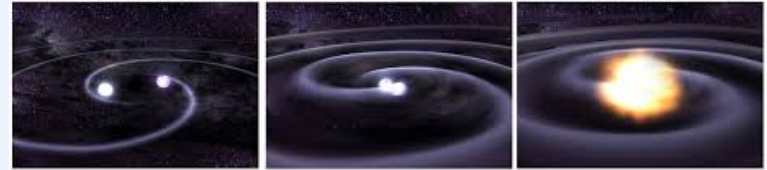
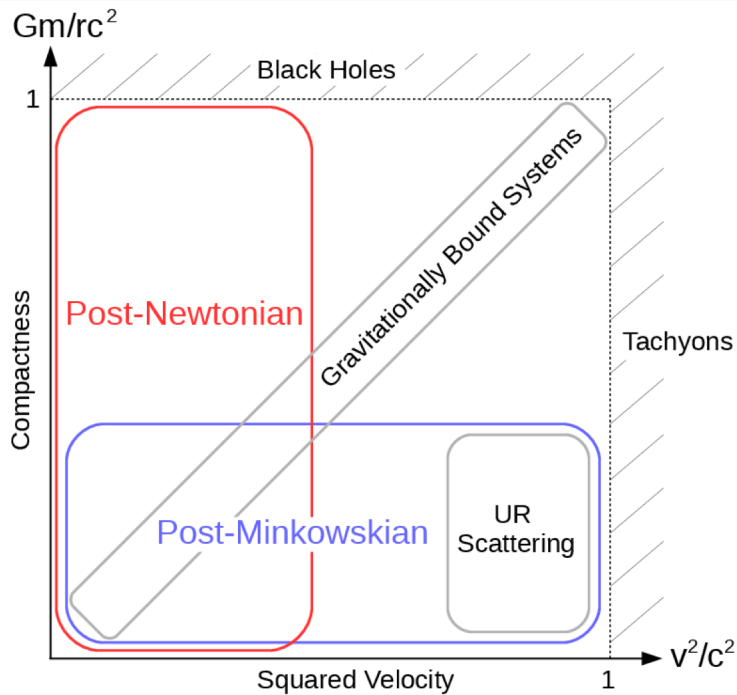




# Post-Newtonian expansion

covariant treatment of **PN physics**

- application to (early phase of) binary inspirals ?



**Post-Minkowskian:**

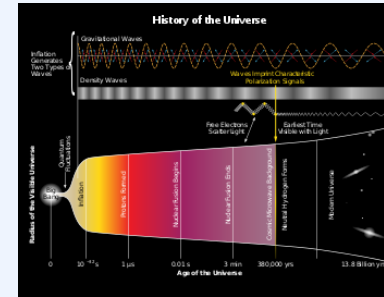
resum effects in  $v/c$  at give order in  $G$

**Post-Newtonian:**

use NRG to resum effects of  $G$  at given order in  $1/c$  ?

# Further properties of NRG

- cosmology: FRW solutions



- Newton-Schroedinger theory:

Coupling of non-relativistic field (electron/neutron) to NRG

- well-defined framework to treat PN corrections
- possible useful starting point to further analyze QM effects (gravitationally induced quantum interference with neutron beams)