

Selected Topics in the Theories of Gravity - Assignment 4

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1. Post-Newtonian energy-momentum conservation

Consider the perfect fluid energy-momentum tensor

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\rho + \rho\Pi + p)u^\mu u^\nu + pg^{\mu\nu}, \quad (1)$$

where $\rho \sim \Pi \sim \mathcal{O}(2)$ and $p \sim \mathcal{O}(4)$.

(a) Use the approximation

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} \quad (2)$$

to express $g^{\mu\nu}$ in terms of $\eta^{\mu\nu}$ and $h_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}$. Keep only terms up to linear order in $h_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}$.

(b) Calculate Γ^i_{00} up to second order $\mathcal{O}(2)$.

(c) Use $u^i = u^0 v^i$ and the normalization

$$u^\mu u^\nu g_{\mu\nu} = -1 \quad (3)$$

and write u^0 and u^i in terms of v^i and $h_{00}^{(2)} = 2U$. Keep only terms up to second velocity order $\mathcal{O}(2)$.

(d) Calculate the components T^{00}, T^{0i}, T^{ij} up to the fourth velocity order $\mathcal{O}(4)$.

(e) Calculate the conservation equations

$$\nabla_\mu T^{\mu 0} = 0, \quad \nabla_\mu T^{\mu i} = 0 \quad (4)$$

and keep only the lowest order terms in each equation. Use the fact that $\nabla_\mu = \partial_\mu + \mathcal{O}(2)$ to determine which Christoffel symbols you need to take into account. Show that these reproduce the conservation equations

$$0 = \nabla_\mu T^{\mu 0} = \rho_{,0} + (\rho v_i)_{,i} + \mathcal{O}(5), \quad (5a)$$

$$0 = \nabla_\mu T^{\mu i} = \rho \frac{dv_i}{dt} + p_{,i} - \rho U_{,i} + \mathcal{O}(6). \quad (5b)$$

2. Post-Newtonian potentials

Use the continuity equation (5a) to show that the potentials

$$U(t, \vec{x}) = \int d^3x' \frac{\rho(t, \vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \sim \mathcal{O}(2), \quad (6a)$$

$$V_i(t, \vec{x}) = \int d^3x' \frac{\rho(t, \vec{x}') v_i(t, \vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \sim \mathcal{O}(3), \quad (6b)$$

$$W_i(t, \vec{x}) = \int d^3x' \frac{\rho(t, \vec{x}') v_j(t, \vec{x}') (x_i - x'_i)(x_j - x'_j)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|^3} \sim \mathcal{O}(3) \quad (6c)$$

satisfy the relations

$$U_{,0} = -V_{i,i} = W_{i,i}. \quad (7)$$