

# Gravitational radiation: Lecture 1

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## Lectures' content

### Lecture 1:

- Einstein equations for weak gravitational fields
- Propagation of GWs in vacuum: plane wave solution
- Interaction of GWs with free-falling particles
- Local Lorentz frame versus transverse traceless frame
- GWs carry off energy and angular-momentum

## Lectures' content

### Lecture 2:

- **Quadrupolar wave generation in linearized Einstein theory**
- **Brief survey of GW sources:**
  - **Black hole and/or neutron star binaries**
  - **pulsars**
  - **supernovae**
  - **stochastic background**

## References

**Landau-Lifshitz:** *Field Theory*, **Chap. 11, 13**

**Schutz:** *A first course in general relativity*, **Chap. 8, 9**

**Weinberg:** *Gravitation and Cosmology*, **Chap. 7, 10**

**Misner-Thorne-Wheeler:** *Gravitation*, **Chap. 8**

**Course by Thorne available on the web:** Lectures 4, 5 & 6

**Relativistic units:**

$G = 1 = c \Rightarrow$  Mass, space and time have same units

$$1 \text{ sec} \sim 3 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}$$

$$1M_{\odot} \sim 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ sec}$$

## A bit of gravitational-wave history

- In 1916 Einstein realized the propagation effects at finite velocity in the gravitational equations and predicted the existence of wave-like solutions of the linearized vacuum field equations
- Works by Eddington, Einstein et al. in the 20-30s trying to understand whether the radiative degrees of freedom were physical
  - Complications and subtleties: Non-linearities and invariance under coordinate transformations
- The work by Bondi in the mid 50s, applied to self-gravitating systems like binaries made of neutron stars and/or black holes, proved that gravitational waves carry off energy and angular-momentum

## Brief summary of Einstein equations and notations

$$S = S_g + S_{\text{matter}}$$

$$S_g = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R \quad - \quad \frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_{\text{matter}}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} = T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\eta_{\mu\nu} = (-, +, +, +) \quad \text{with} \quad \mu, \nu = 0, 1, 2, 3 \quad \text{and} \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3$$

by imposing the principle of minimal action

$$\int (G_{\mu\nu} - \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}) \delta g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{-g} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}$$

## Brief summary of Einstein equations [continued]

$$R^\nu_{\mu\rho\sigma} = \frac{\partial\Gamma^\nu_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial x^\rho} - \frac{\partial\Gamma^\nu_{\mu\rho}}{\partial x^\sigma} + \Gamma^\nu_{\lambda\rho}\Gamma^\lambda_{\mu\sigma} - \Gamma^\nu_{\lambda\sigma}\Gamma^\lambda_{\mu\rho}$$

$$\Gamma^\mu_{\nu\rho} = \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\lambda} \left( \frac{\partial g_{\lambda\nu}}{\partial x^\rho} + \frac{\partial g_{\lambda\rho}}{\partial x^\nu} - \frac{\partial g_{\rho\nu}}{\partial x^\lambda} \right)$$

more explicitly:

$$R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 g_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial x^\nu \partial x^\rho} + \frac{\partial^2 g_{\nu\rho}}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\sigma} - \frac{\partial^2 g_{\mu\rho}}{\partial x^\nu \partial x^\sigma} - \frac{\partial^2 g_{\nu\sigma}}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\rho} \right) \\ + \frac{1}{2}g_{\lambda\alpha} \left( \Gamma^\lambda_{\nu\rho}\Gamma^\alpha_{\mu\sigma} - \Gamma^\lambda_{\nu\sigma}\Gamma^\alpha_{\mu\rho} \right)$$

**Bianchi identity:**  $R^\lambda_{\mu\nu\rho;\sigma} + R^\lambda_{\mu\sigma\nu;\rho} + R^\lambda_{\mu\rho\sigma;\nu} = 0$



## Brief summary of Einstein equations [continued]

**Ricci tensor:**  $R_{\mu\nu} = g^{\rho\sigma} R_{\rho\mu\sigma\nu}$

**Scalar tensor:**  $R = g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu}$

$$G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}$$

- **Non-linear equations with well-posed initial value structure**
- **$4 \times 4 = 16$  differential equations, but  $G_{\mu\nu}$  and  $T_{\mu\nu}$  are symmetric tensors  $\Rightarrow 10$  differential equations, but because of Bianchi identity  $G_{\mu\nu}{}^{;\nu} = 0 \Rightarrow 6$  differential equations to be solved when  $T_{\mu\nu}$  is given**

## Einstein equations for weak gravitational fields in flat spacetime

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

$$\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\rho} h_{\nu}^{\mu} + \partial_{\nu} h_{\rho}^{\mu} - \partial^{\mu} h_{\nu\rho}) + \mathcal{O}(|h|^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} &= \eta_{\mu\alpha} \partial_{\rho} \Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^{\alpha} - \eta_{\mu\alpha} \partial_{\sigma} \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^{\alpha} + \mathcal{O}(|h|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (h_{\mu\sigma,\nu\rho} + h_{\nu\rho,\mu\sigma} - h_{\mu\rho,\nu\sigma} - h_{\nu\sigma,\mu\rho}) + \mathcal{O}(|h|^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$G_{\nu\sigma} = R_{\nu\sigma} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\nu\sigma} R =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} [h_{\mu\sigma,\nu}{}^{\mu} + h_{\mu\nu,\sigma}{}^{\mu} - h_{,\nu\sigma} - h_{\nu\sigma,\mu}{}^{\mu} - \eta_{\nu\sigma} h_{\mu\alpha,\alpha}{}^{\mu} + \eta_{\nu\sigma} h_{,\alpha}{}^{\alpha} + \mathcal{O}(|h|^2)]$$

## Trace reverse tensor $\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}$

At linear order we can write:  $h^\mu_\beta = \eta^{\mu\alpha} h_{\alpha\beta}$ ,  $h = \eta^{\alpha\beta} h_{\alpha\beta}$

Introducing  $\bar{h}^{\alpha\beta} = h^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2}\eta^{\alpha\beta} h$  (note that  $\bar{h} = -h$ )

$$G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu} R \simeq -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \bar{h}_{\mu\nu,\lambda}^{\lambda} + \eta_{\mu\nu} \bar{h}_{\lambda\rho,\lambda}^{\lambda\rho} - 2\bar{h}_{\mu\lambda,\nu}^{\lambda} + \mathcal{O}(|\bar{h}|^2) \right]$$

Imposing the Lorenz gauge (or harmonic or De Donder gauge)  $\bar{h}^{\mu\nu}_{,\nu} = 0$

## Einstein field equations in linearized theory

$$G_{\mu\nu} \simeq -\frac{1}{2}\bar{h}_{\mu\nu,\lambda}^{\lambda} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T^{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow \left( \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{16\pi G}{c^4} T^{\mu\nu}$$

## Lorenz gauge can always be imposed

$x_{\text{new}}^\mu = x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x)$  with  $\xi^\mu$  an arbitrary and infinitesimal vector field

$$g_{\mu\nu}^{\text{new}} = g_{\mu\nu} - \xi_{\mu,\nu} - \xi_{\nu,\mu}$$

$$\bar{h}_{\text{new}}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} - \eta^{\mu\rho} \xi^\nu_{,\rho} - \eta^{\lambda\nu} \xi^\mu_{,\lambda} + \eta^{\mu\nu} \xi^\rho_{,\rho}$$

$$\bar{h}_{\text{new},\nu}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{h}^{\mu\nu}_{,\nu} - \eta^{\lambda\nu} \xi^\mu_{,\lambda\nu} = 0 \Rightarrow \square \xi^\mu = \bar{h}^{\mu\nu}_{,\nu}$$

- $\xi^\mu$  exists for any well behaved  $\bar{h}^{\mu\nu}$
- $\xi^\mu$  is not unique, we can always add to it  $q^\mu$  such that  $\square q^\mu = 0$

## Propagation of GWs in vacuum

$$\left( \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad \partial_\nu \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

- Plane wave solution:

$$\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{A} \epsilon^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}) e^{ik_\alpha x^\alpha} \quad \text{with} \quad k_\nu \epsilon^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \text{polarization tensor}$$

- General solution:

$$\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} = \text{Re} \left[ \int d^3k \mathcal{A}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}) e^{ik_\alpha x^\alpha} \right] \quad \text{with} \quad k^\mu = (\omega, \vec{k}) \quad \text{and} \quad k^\mu \mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

**Using the freedom within Lorenz gauge  $\Rightarrow$  we can determine the *only* physical radiative components in  $\bar{h}^{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow \bar{h}_{\text{TT}}^{\mu\nu}$**

## Imposing transverse-traceless gauge

We choose  $q_\mu = B_\mu e^{ik_\alpha x^\alpha}$  with  $k_\alpha k^\alpha = 0$  ( $\square q_\mu = 0$ )

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu}^{\text{old}} - iB_\mu k_\nu - iB_\nu k_\mu + i\eta_{\mu\nu} B^\rho k_\rho$$

We impose:

1.  $\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} k^\nu = 0$
2.  $\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} \eta^{\mu\nu} = 0$
3. If  $U^\nu$  is a constant timelike unit vector ( $U_\nu U^\nu = -1$ ) we impose  $\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} U^\mu = 0$

**This set of equations determine  $B_\mu$**

## Imposing transverse-traceless gauge [continued]

1. Choosing  $U^\mu = \delta_0^\mu \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{\mu 0} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{00} = \mathcal{A}_{x0} = \mathcal{A}_{y0} = \mathcal{A}_{z0} = 0$

**assuming the wave travels along  $z$**

2.  $\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} k^\nu = 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{\mu z} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0z} = \mathcal{A}_{xz} = \mathcal{A}_{yz} = \mathcal{A}_{zz} = 0$

3.  $\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu} \eta^{\mu\nu} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{xx} = -\mathcal{A}_{yy}$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu}^{\text{TT}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathcal{A}_{xx} & \mathcal{A}_{xy} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathcal{A}_{xy} & -\mathcal{A}_{xx} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Only *two* independent components:  $\mathcal{A}_{xx}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_{xy}$**

## Linearly polarized waves in EM and GW theory

- In EM theory linearly polarized vectors are:

$\mathbf{e}_x$  and  $\mathbf{e}_y$

- In GW theory linearly polarized tensors are:

$$\mathbf{e}_+ = \mathbf{e}_x \times \mathbf{e}_x - \mathbf{e}_y \times \mathbf{e}_y \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{e}_\times = \mathbf{e}_x \times \mathbf{e}_y + \mathbf{e}_y \times \mathbf{e}_x$$

$$(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v})(\lambda, \mathbf{q}) = (\lambda \cdot \mathbf{u})(\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{v})$$

$$\mathbf{e}_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{e}_\times = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



## Circularly polarized waves in EM and GW theory

- In EM theory circularly polarized vectors are:

$$\mathbf{e}_R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\mathbf{e}_x + i\mathbf{e}_y) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{e}_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\mathbf{e}_x - i\mathbf{e}_y)$$

- In GW theory circularly polarized tensors are:

$$\mathbf{e}_R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\mathbf{e}_+ + i\mathbf{e}_\times) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{e}_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\mathbf{e}_+ - i\mathbf{e}_\times)$$

$$\mathbf{e}_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{e}_\times = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## GWs have helicity 2

Any plane wave  $\psi$  which is transformed by a rotation of any angle  $\theta$  around the direction of propagation into  $\psi' = e^{i h \theta} \psi$  is said to have **helicity**  $h$

Let us rotate the coordinate system around  $z$  by  $\theta$

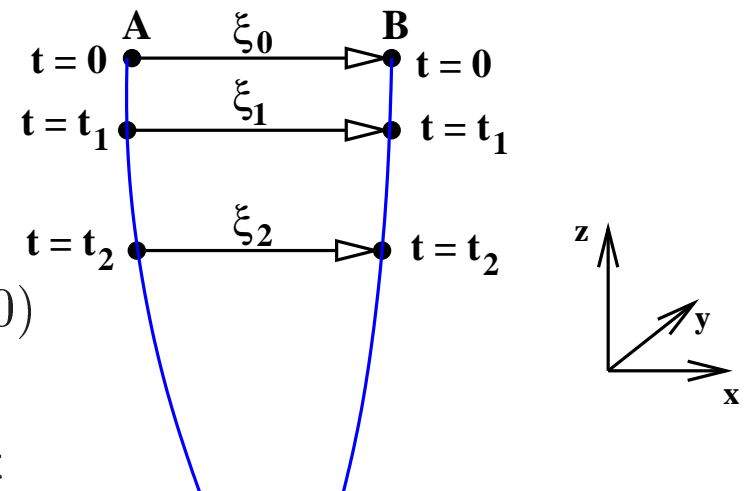
$$x' = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta \quad y' = y \cos \theta - x \sin \theta$$

$$\mathbf{e}_{x'} = \mathbf{e}_x \cos \theta + \mathbf{e}_y \sin \theta \quad \mathbf{e}_{y'} = -\mathbf{e}_x \sin \theta + \mathbf{e}_y \cos \theta$$

$$\mathbf{e}_{+'} = \mathbf{e}_+ \cos 2\theta + \mathbf{e}_\times \sin 2\theta \quad \mathbf{e}_{\times'} = -\mathbf{e}_+ \sin 2\theta + \mathbf{e}_\times \cos 2\theta$$

## Newtonian description of tidal gravity

- Two point particles A and B falling freely under the action of external Newtonian potential  $\Phi$
- A and B at time  $t = 0$  are separated by small distance  $\xi$  and have equal velocity  $\mathbf{v}_A(0) = \mathbf{v}_B(0)$
- For  $t > 0$ , A and B experiences slightly different gravitational potential and accelerations  $\mathbf{g} = -\nabla\Phi$



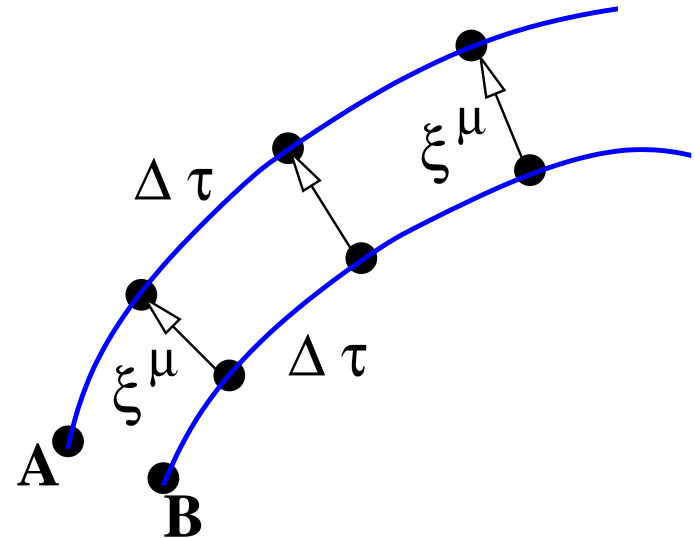
$$\xi^i = x_A^i - x_B^i \quad \dot{\xi}^i = \dot{x}_A^i - \dot{x}_B^i$$

$$\ddot{\xi}^i = \ddot{x}_A^i - \ddot{x}_B^i = - \left( \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x^i} \right)_B + \left( \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x^i} \right)_A \simeq - \left( \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \right) \xi^j$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} = - \left( \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \right) \Rightarrow \text{Newtonian tidal gravitational field}$$

## Equation of geodesic deviation

Pair of nearby freely-falling particles A and B traveling on trajectories  $x^\mu(\tau)$  and  $x^\mu(\tau) + \xi^\mu$



$$0 = \frac{d^2 x^\mu}{d\tau^2} + \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\mu \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\lambda}{d\tau}$$

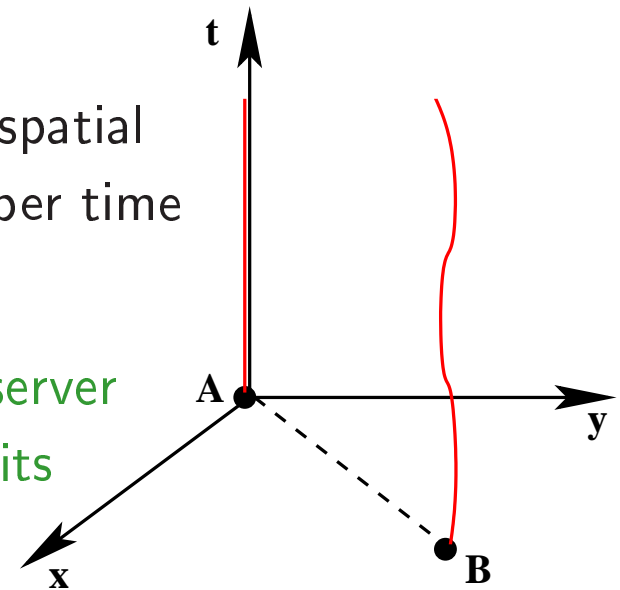
$$0 = \frac{d^2(x^\mu + \xi^\mu)}{d\tau^2} + \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\mu(x + \xi) \frac{d(x^\nu + \xi^\nu)}{d\tau} \frac{d(x^\lambda + \xi^\lambda)}{d\tau}$$

Taking the difference and limiting to first order in  $\xi$

$$\nabla_U \nabla_U \xi^\lambda = R_{\nu\mu\rho}^\lambda \xi^\mu U^\nu U^\rho \quad U^\alpha = \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau}$$

## Interaction of GWs with free-falling particles using local Lorentz frame

- Two test particles A and B initially at rest one respect to the other in absence of GWs
- Local Lorentz frame attached to particle A, with spatial origin at  $x^j = 0$  and coordinate time equal to proper time  $x^0 = t$
- By definition of LLF, the metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  of a LLF observer reduces to Minkowski metric at the origin and all its first derivatives must vanish at the origin



$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{\mathcal{R}}\right)$$

$\mathcal{R}$  being the curvature radius:  $\mathcal{R}^{-2} = |R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}|$

## Geodesic deviation equation in LLF

$$\nabla_U \nabla_U \xi^\alpha = R^\alpha_{\nu\lambda\rho} \xi^\lambda \frac{dx^\nu}{dt} \frac{dx^\rho}{dt}$$

$$\nabla_U \nabla_U \xi^\alpha = U^\beta \nabla_\beta (U^\lambda \nabla_\lambda \xi^\alpha) = U^\beta U^\lambda \nabla_\beta (\xi^\alpha_{,\lambda} + \Gamma^\alpha_{\lambda\sigma} \xi^\sigma)$$

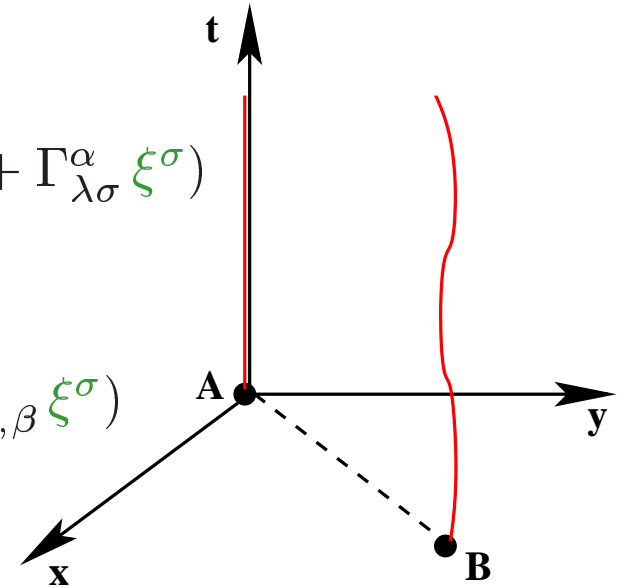
In the LLF of particle A:

$$\Gamma^\sigma_{\alpha\beta} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla_U \nabla_U \xi^\alpha = U^\beta U^\lambda (\xi^\alpha_{,\lambda\beta} + \Gamma^\alpha_{\lambda\sigma,\beta} \xi^\sigma)$$

$$U^\alpha = \delta^\alpha_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla_U \nabla_U \xi^\alpha = \ddot{\xi}^\alpha + \Gamma^\alpha_{0\sigma,0} \xi^\sigma$$

$$\dot{g}_{\mu\nu} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{\mathcal{R}}\right) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla_U \nabla_U \xi^\alpha = \ddot{\xi}^\alpha$$

$$\text{Assuming } \xi^0 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d^2 \xi^j}{dt^2} = R^j_{0i0} \xi^i$$



## Geodesic deviation equation in LLF [continued]

If  $\bar{x}^\mu$  and  $\bar{g}^{\mu\nu}$  refer to TT gauge ( $h_{\times}^{\text{TT}} = 0, h_{+}^{\text{TT}} \neq 0$ ):

$$\bar{g}^{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h^{\text{TT}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -h^{\text{TT}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The local Lorentz metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  should reduce to Minkowski metric at the origin and all its first derivatives must vanish

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{t} &= t - \dot{h}^{\text{TT}} (x^2 - y^2)/4 \\ \bar{x} &= x - h^{\text{TT}} x/2 \\ \bar{y} &= y + h^{\text{TT}} y/2 \\ \bar{z} &= z + \dot{h}^{\text{TT}} (x^2 - y^2)/4 \end{aligned} \quad g^{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} \Phi(t) & 0 & 0 & \Phi(t) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Phi(t) & 0 & 0 & \Phi(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Phi(t) = -\frac{1}{4} \ddot{h}^{\text{TT}} (x^2 - y^2) \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 \xi^j}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^j \partial x^k} \xi^k$$

## Geodesic deviation equation in LLF [continued]

$$R^i_{0j0} = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial \bar{x}^\mu} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^\nu}{\partial x^0} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^\lambda}{\partial x^j} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^\rho}{\partial x^0} R^{\text{TT} \mu}_{\nu\lambda\rho} \simeq R^{\text{TT} i}_{0j0} \Rightarrow R^i_{0j0} = \frac{1}{2} \ddot{h}^{\text{TT}}_{ij}$$

$$\frac{d^2 \xi^j}{dt^2} = R^j_{0i0} \xi^i = \frac{1}{2} \ddot{h}^{\text{TT}}_{ij} \xi^j(0) \Rightarrow \delta \xi^i = \frac{1}{2} h^{\text{TT}}_{ij} \xi^j(0)$$

- The acceleration of particle B in the LLF of particle A is:  $a^i = \frac{F^i}{m_B} = \frac{1}{2} \ddot{h}^{\text{TT}}_{ij} \xi^j(0)$
- The observer in LLF of particle A concludes that particle B is subjected to the force  $\mathbf{F}$ , whereas for an observer in LLF of particle B, particle B is just free falling

**In GW interferometers:** A → mirror at beam splitter; B → mirror at end of arm cavity

$$\frac{\delta \xi}{\xi(0)} = \frac{\delta \xi}{L} = h \quad \text{If } L \sim 3 \text{ km, } h \sim 10^{-21} \Rightarrow \delta \xi \sim 10^{-16} \text{ m!}$$



## Geodesic deviation equation in LLF [continued]

The LLF is useful to do calculations as long as we can use the metric in the form  $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x^2}{\mathcal{R}^2}\right)$ , i.e., as long as we can disregard  $x^2$  corrections

$$\mathcal{R}^{-2} = |R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}| \sim |R_{i0j0}| \sim \ddot{h} \sim \frac{h}{\lambda_{\text{GW}}^2}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{\mathcal{R}^2} \sim \frac{L^2 h}{\lambda_{\text{GW}}^2} \ll 1 \quad \text{if} \quad L \ll \lambda_{\text{GW}}$$

- Ground-based detectors (LIGO, VIRGO, TAMA, GEO):  $L \ll \lambda_{\text{GW}} \sim 10^3$  km
- Space-based detectors (LISA):  $L \sim \lambda_{\text{GW}} \sim 5 \times 10^6$  km

## Interaction of GWs with free-falling particles using TT gauge

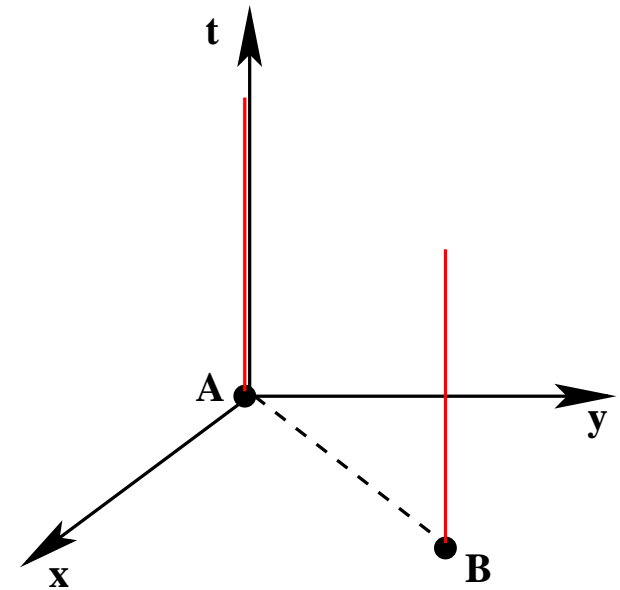
- Two test particles A and B initially at rest one respect to the other in absence of GWs
- $U^\alpha$  being the 4-velocity of particle A

$$\frac{dU^\alpha}{d\tau} + \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha U^\mu U^\nu = 0$$

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha = \frac{1}{2}\eta^{\alpha\beta} (h_{\beta\mu,\nu}^{\text{TT}} + h_{\nu\beta,\mu}^{\text{TT}} - h_{\mu\nu,\beta}^{\text{TT}})$$

- Initially  $U^\alpha = \delta_0^\alpha \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dU^\alpha}{d\tau} = -\Gamma_{00}^\alpha = -\frac{1}{2}\eta^{\alpha\beta} (h_{0\beta,0}^{\text{TT}} + h_{\beta 0,0}^{\text{TT}} - h_{00,\beta}^{\text{TT}}) = 0!$$



**The particles A and B do not move!**

## Equivalence between TT gauge and local Lorentz gauge

Proper distance in the two frames (assume that A and B are along  $x$ -axis and *only*  $h_+ \neq 0$ )

- LLF:

$$(\Delta s)^2 = g_{xx} (\Delta x)^2$$

$$g_{xx} = 1 \quad \text{but} \quad (\Delta x)^2 = (L + \frac{1}{2}h_+ L)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta s = L (1 + \frac{1}{2}h_+)$$

- TTF:

$$(\Delta s)^2 = g_{xx} (\Delta x)^2$$

$$g_{xx} = 1 + h_+ \quad \text{but} \quad (\Delta x)^2 = L^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta s = L (1 + \frac{1}{2}h_+)$$

**Proper distances are the same!**

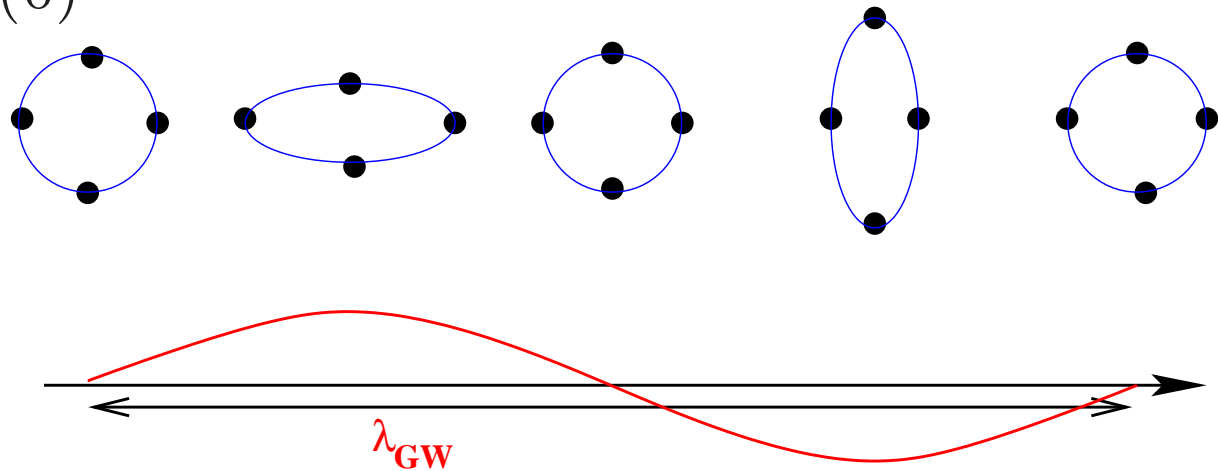
## Interaction between GW and ring of free-falling particles: $h_+^{\text{TT}}$

GW propagating along  $z$ -axis

$$\text{Case: } h_{xx}^{\text{TT}} = -h_{yy}^{\text{TT}} \equiv h_+^{\text{TT}} \neq 0 \quad h_{xy}^{\text{TT}} = h_{yx}^{\text{TT}} \equiv h_{\times}^{\text{TT}} = 0$$

$$\delta \xi_x = +\frac{1}{2} h_{xx}^{\text{TT}} \xi_x(0)$$

$$\delta \xi_y = -\frac{1}{2} h_{xx}^{\text{TT}} \xi_y(0)$$



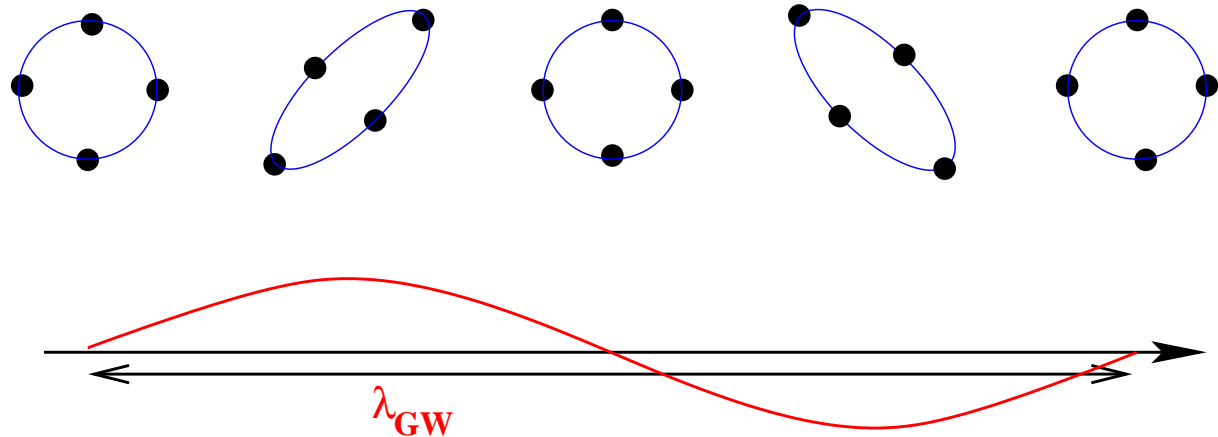
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GW propagating along  $z$ -axis

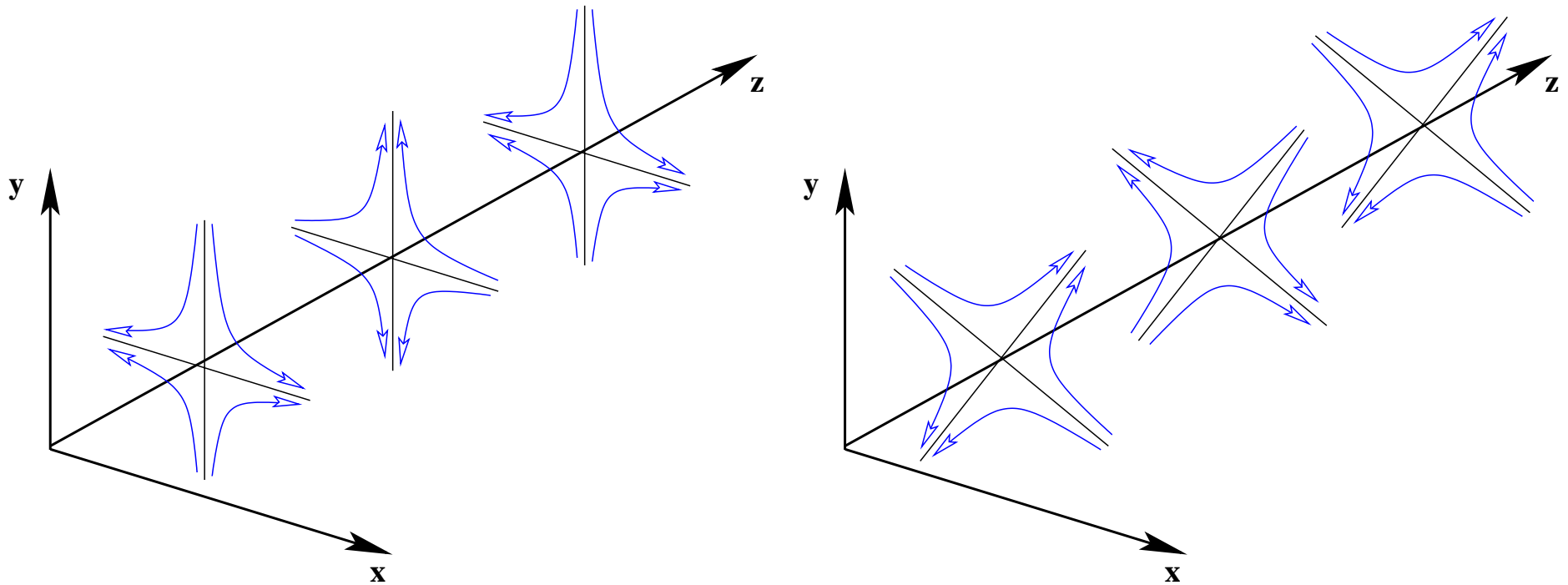
Case:  $h_{xx}^{\text{TT}} = -h_{yy}^{\text{TT}} \equiv h_{+}^{\text{TT}} = 0$        $h_{xy}^{\text{TT}} = h_{yx}^{\text{TT}} \equiv h_{\times}^{\text{TT}} \neq 0$

$$\delta \xi_x = +\frac{1}{2} h_{xy}^{\text{TT}} \xi_y(0)$$

$$\delta \xi_y = +\frac{1}{2} h_{xy}^{\text{TT}} \xi_x(0)$$



## Lines of force for $h_{+}^{\text{TT}}$ and $h_{\times}^{\text{TT}}$



## Energy-momentum pseudo-tensor

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

$$R_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu} R^{(1)} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} (T_{\mu\nu} + \tau_{\mu\nu}) \quad R_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} \sim [\partial\partial h]_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\tau_{\mu\nu} = \frac{c^4}{8\pi G} \left( R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu} R - R_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} + \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu} R^{(1)} \right) \sim [\partial h \partial h]_{\mu\nu} + \dots$$

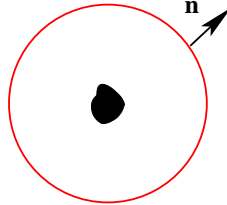
$$t^{\nu\lambda} = \eta^{\nu\mu} \eta^{\lambda\alpha} \left( \underbrace{T_{\mu\alpha}}_{\text{matter's EMT}} + \underbrace{\tau_{\mu\alpha}}_{\text{grav field EMPT}} \right)$$

$$t^{\mu\nu} \text{ is locally conserved} \Rightarrow t^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0$$

$$[\text{matter EMT satisfies } T^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0]$$

## GWs carry off energy and angular momentum

$t^{\mu\nu}_{,\nu} = 0 \Rightarrow$  for any finite system of volume  $V$  bounded by a surface  $S$

$$\Rightarrow P^\lambda = \frac{d}{dt} \int_V t^{0\lambda} d^3x = - \int_S t^{i\lambda} \mathbf{n}_i dS$$


$P^\lambda \Rightarrow$  EM vector of matter and gravitational field;  $t^{i\lambda} \Rightarrow$  flux

$$\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dE}{dt} = - \int_S t^{i0} \mathbf{n}_i dS = - \int \tau^{i0} \mathbf{n}_i dS$$

For a plane GW propagating along  $z$ -axis, oscillating at frequency  $f_{\text{GW}}$ :

$$c \langle \tau^{0z} \rangle = \frac{c^5}{16\pi G} \langle \frac{1}{2} \dot{h}_{xx}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \dot{h}_{yy}^2 + \dot{h}_{xy}^2 \rangle \sim \frac{c^3}{G} f_{\text{GW}}^2 h^2$$

Supernova at 20 kpc:  $c \langle \tau^{0z} \rangle \sim 400 \frac{\text{erg}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{sec}} \left( \frac{f_{\text{GW}}}{1\text{kHz}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{h}{10^{-21}} \right)^2$



## Comparison with other kind of radiation from supernovae

- From neutrino  $\sim 10^5 \frac{\text{erg}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{sec}}$  during 10 secs
- From optical radiation  $\sim 10^{-4} \frac{\text{erg}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{sec}}$  during one week