

# Re: variation of appropriate degrees of freedom of metric

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  - *Date:* Fri, 15 Feb 2008 09:35:58 -0800 (PST)
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On Feb 13, 12:23 pm, babalu...@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

In Carroll's text

Provide a link.

Einestein's equations are obtained from varying the Hilbert action with respect to the full degrees of freedom of the metric, i.e. the metric variation is not restricted to preserving constant signature.

What's a "signature" ?

Assuming that constant signature underlies the Bianchi identity, requiring that the energy-momentum tensor be conserved preserves the Bianchi identity in the final result and maybe saves us from having to vary with respect to the appropriate degrees of freedom of the metric. I would like to know if the above thoughts are correct.

IMHO: It depends on the "domain of applicability" that is intended. For pragmatic reasons specialized simplifications can be done. However, doing so will likely make the interface of GR and Wave-Mechanics impossible. ((That might be a question better posted in sci.phy.research where expert math physicist's could be more clarifying)).

Turning the problem inside-out, I'm in favor of harmonic solutions, since all

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physical measurement requires the use of EMR frequency's, to survey effects of gravitational fields.

Particularly, if I try to explore what happens if the matter term in the action is ignored and vary with the full (inappropriate) degrees of freedom of the metric, I obtain solutions that violate the Bianchi identity. Imagine a boundary condition on  $G_{\mu\nu}$  such that it is non-zero in some regions of a spacelike hypersurface then the equation resulting from this variation:  $G_{\mu\nu}=0$  outside the boundary would mean the G is not conserved. This violation seems to me more a result of varying with respect to inappropriate degrees of freedom of metric than of ignoring the matter term in the action. Is this correct?

Let me express AE's Law simply by  $G=T$  and it's covariant derivative as  $(G=T);w =0$ .

Focus a bit on  $T;w=0$ . Look carefully at that and see how energy is exchanged via quanta, (not continuously). The differential variation of a quantum increment is zero, we can prove that. Take the derivative of the following series, assuming h is a constant,

$$T = h + h + h + \dots$$

$dT = 0$ , but T is NOT a constant.

Thank you for any guidance on this.

Thank you for clarifying a question. I'm intersted in the 5th rank Bianchi's too.

Regards  
Ken S.Tucker  
PS Nice post.