

Re: variation of appropriate degrees of freedom of metric

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- *From:* Tom Roberts <tjroberts137@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Eric Gisse wrote:

On Feb 15, 7:11 am, Tom Roberts <tjroberts...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

the technique is valid only for SMALL variations, and the definition of "small" must include not changing the metric signature.

So is it correct to say that one cannot continuously change the signature of a metric?

Is a signature change a discontinuous process like a parity inversion?

Certainly. The signature of a metric is an integer, and an integer cannot possibly be changed "continuously".

[Some authors call "+++-" the "signature"; others use the sum $+1+1+1-1=2$; I mean the latter sense here.]

Tom Roberts

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