Über Die Gravitationsfeldrelativitätstheorie: A Thought Experiment

Read pp. 10-13 in wegtransformierbar.pdf. The theory is falsifiable (p. 4 therein).

Prerequisite: Richard W. Pogge

I will talk about the alteration of the rate of Heraclitean arrow of 4D events (p. 8), corresponding to the increasing, yet unobservable, radius of the ‘inflating balloon’:

We postulate that the Heraclitean arrow of 4D events is temporarily nullified at null intervals viz. gravity is eliminated (not by “freely falling coordinates”, Hans Ohanian): the Heraclitean arrow of 4D events is completely nullified in the squared spacetime interval \((\Delta s^2)\), once at a time, as read with a clock. There is no reference frame in which the physical time \(t_n\), \(n: (0, \infty)\), is at rest. We choose some reference frame ‘at rest’ only to show the physical (coordinate) time \(t_n\) as ‘change in space’ (p. 5), again once at a time. Is it possible to recast General Relativity (GR) without any spacetime “curvature”? This is the prime objective of Gravitational Theory of Relativity (GTR). In German, Die Gravitationsfeldrelativitätstheorie. Read Q4 from Q&A below.

For example, the popular idea below is false (Q1). Quote from: John Baez and Emory Bunn, The Meaning of Einstein’s Equation, January 4, 2006, Sec. Spatial Curvature.

“One positively curved surface such as a sphere, initially parallel lines converge towards one another. The same thing happens in the three-dimensional space of the Einstein static universe. In fact, the geometry of space in this model is that of a 3-sphere. This picture illustrates what happens:
“One dimension is suppressed in this picture, so the two-dimensional spherical surface shown represents the three-dimensional universe. The small shaded circle on the surface represents our tiny sphere of test particles, which starts at the equator and moves north. The sides of the sphere approach each other along the dashed geodesics, so the sphere **shrinks** (emphasis mine - D.C.) in the transverse direction, although its diameter in the direction of motion does not change.”

There is another idea in GR textbooks, which is also **false** (Q2): the “pulsation” of the ‘shaded circle’ in the drawing above, due to some fictitious “gravitational waves” (GWs). Read *The Persistent Mystery of Gravitational Radiation* on p. 13 in Zenon.

I will offer a simple thought experiment to illustrate how to avoid the **false** idea of spacetime “curvature”.

Consider three temporal intervals with durations 20*, 40*, and 80*, depicted below with lines built by “frames” denoted with (*), like in a movie reel (p. 21 in BCCP). Call them ‘attractive’, ‘neutral’, and ‘repulsive’, and denote as $V_a$, $V_n$, and $V_r$.

$V_a$: ********************
$V_n$: ****************************
$V_r$: ******************************************************

Think of the three temporal intervals above as movie clips recorded with **variable rates** (frames * per second, FPS), and set $V_a = 20$ FPS, $V_n = 40$ FPS, and $V_r = 80$ FPS. Relative to $V_a$ (20 FPS), $V_n$ (40 FPS) will run twice faster; relative to $V_n$ (40 FPS), $V_r$ (80 FPS) will also run twice faster. In all cases, the intervals with variable FPS will pass 1s Heraclitean time as ‘change of space’ (p. 5) along $W$ (p. 8). This is how **variable rates** (FPS) can assemble **different** intervals for the same invariant 1s Heraclitean time by **inflating** the physical frames (*) on the 3D surface of the balloon above.

Notice that in all three cases their (proper) duration and **rate** of time stay invariant: 1s with rate $1s/s$. This is their ‘common denominator’. There is no universal “true” duration nor universal “true” length in GTR (*Gravitationsfeldrelativitätstheorie*): all **clocks** and **rods** are flexible and relational. We postulate alteration of the **rate** of Heraclitean Time (p. 8), leading to alteration of the physical (coordinate) time $t_n$ built by temporal units (*). The latter can **inflate and deflate** — but only relationally. Read my note on **calibration** of spacetime at p. 3 here.

The ‘neutral’ $V_n$ corresponds to **weightless** objects with **zero g-force**: recall the astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS). Their clocks run **faster** ($V_n > V_a$) relative to the clocks on the surface of Earth (the latter are lagging 0.007 seconds **behind** for every six months), and we had to adjust the clocks to have GPS navigation (R.W. Pogge).

It’s all relative, as uncle Albert used to say. Today, 14 March 2020, I commemorate his 141st birthday by introducing the equation of *Gravitationsfeldrelativitätstheorie*
RS = 1.

R (from rate) denotes the rate of the Heraclitean ‘time flow’ W (p. 8), and S (from size) denotes the relative size of the squared invariant spacetime intervals ($\Delta s^2$).

For example, consider two cases in GTR.

Case A: $R = V_a$ (20 FPS), then $S = 20$ and $RS = 1$, namely, the invariant 1 RS second (“deflated” $\Delta s^2$).

Case B: $R = V_r$ (80 FPS), $S = 80$ and $RS = 1$, that is, again the invariant 1 RS second (“inflated” $\Delta s^2$).

Case A is “deflated” relative to Case B, and Case B is “inflated” relative to Case A.

In one sentence: whether inflated or deflated, the temporal ‘tick’ (*) is the same.

To find out which one is inflated or deflated, you must be some unphysical “meta” observer in absolute spacetime, which has bird’s eye view simultaneously on Case A and on Case B, like you see the inflating ‘balloon’ (p. 1) and the two drawings below.

The alternative to GTR (Gravitationsfeldrelativitätstheorie) is the established GR, which begins with a “massive body” (Wikipedia) that somehow, and for some unknown reason, would create particular “influence” (Sic!) in 4D spacetime. (And then “the Christoffel symbols play the role of the gravitational force field and the metric tensor plays the role of the gravitational potential”, etc.)

But hold on: what kind of “influence” is that? It doesn’t look like electromagnetism. All we know for sure is that gravity can alter the rate of time, as demonstrated, e.g., in the case of GPS navigation and time dilation. But what is ‘rate of time’? One second per second? One meter per meter? And with respect to what?


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Questions and Answers

Q1: Why are you against spacetime curvature?

A1: Look at the illustration of “spatial curvature” with the drawing by J. Baez and E. Bunn above: “the sphere shrinks (emphasis mine - D.C.) in the transverse direction”. This statement may sound “intuitively clear” only to my dog.

It is impossible to “discover” some gravitational stress-energy-momentum tensor in GR (MTW p. 467), which could somehow “shrink” the physical stuff in the sphere above. No, we do not live in some abstract “vacuum” (\(T^{ab} = 0\)). The spatial curvature is ‘pure geometry’, like the shape of a mountain or rather like ‘the grin on the face of Cheshire cat, but without the cat’: read J.A. Wheeler at p. 1 in the main paper here. Which goes first, matter or geometry? As to the “curvature” of Time, recall the two drawings at p. 3 above. Yes, gravity in GTR does produce work on physical objects. We employ the phenomenon which creates and controls the genuine metric field: the atemporal Platonic world located on null intervals (\(x^2 = (\pm ct)^2\)). Gravity in GTR is not some “fictitious force”. We do not refer to non-tensorial Christoffel symbols either. Big difference. Read p. 13 (last) in the main paper.

Q2: Why are you denying the existence of GWs?

A2: I deny the so-called GW150914 claimed by LIGO: check out the reference at p. 2 above. Yes, the gravitational radiation is real, but only in GTR. If you decide to use the linearized approximation of GR, you will eliminate from the outset the intrinsic non-linear effect (J. Pereira) you wish to detect. Read my note from 4.10.2017 here.

Q3: Have you proved that your theory is correct?

A3: The implicit dynamics of spacetime metric (p. 3 above) cannot be verified by experiment or observation, and yet three people were awarded Nobel Prize in 2011 “for the discovery of the accelerating expansion of the Universe through observations of distant supernovae”. Read about the calibration of spacetime (E.F. Taylor and J.A. Wheeler, Fig. 9) at p. 3 here, and notice the two drawings at p. 7 in the main paper. There is no room in GTR for any “dark energy”, “dark matter”, nor some “mystery matter” (Brian Schmidt). We don’t accept any “ghosts”, even if backed by math.

Q4: Where is your math?

A4: Where’s my Nobel Prize? Read p. 21 in BCCP. How could we define the metric (C. Rovelli) at null surfaces (P. Chrusciel)? The task seems tantamount to defining the phase space of ‘not yet physical’ (W. Heisenberg) explications of quantum “waves” with complex (not real-valued) phase (C.N. Yang). Tough. The phase space of GTR is still out of sight. See a hint of my efforts at p. 4 in the paper here. It is not much, aber besser eine Ameise in Kraut als gar kein Fleisch.

The latest version of this paper (synopsis.pdf) can be downloaded from this http URL.