

# Energies in Fourth Order Gravity

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Collaboration with [Rodrigo Avalos](#) (PU), [Jorge H. Lira](#) (UFC) and  
[Paul Laurain](#) (UP)

1. R. Avalos, J.H. Lira and N. Marque, *Energy in fourth order gravity*, arXiv:2102.00545,
2. R. Avalos, P. Laurain and J.H. Lira, *A positive energy theorem for fourth-order gravity*, by Calc. Var.,
3. R. Avalos, P. Laurain, J.H. Lira and N. Marque *Rigidity Theorems for Asymptotically Euclidean Q-singular Spaces*, arXiv:2204.03607 .

We study gravitational theories on globally hyperbolic spacetimes  $(V^{n+1}, \bar{g}) = (M^n, g_t) \times \mathbb{R}$ .

In GR the gravitational action in vacuum is described by the Einstein-Hilbert functional

$$EH(\bar{g}) = \int_V R_{\bar{g}} d\text{vol}_{\bar{g}},$$

and the Einstein equation

$$G_{\bar{g}} := \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}} - \frac{1}{2} R_{\bar{g}} \bar{g} = 0.$$

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For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , we consider the Fourth Order Gravitational Lagrangian :

$$S(\bar{g}) = \int_V (\alpha R_{\bar{g}}^2 + \beta \langle \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}}, \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}} \rangle_{\bar{g}}) d\text{vol}_{\bar{g}},$$

with Euler-Lagrange equations :

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\bar{g}} := & \beta \square_{\bar{g}} \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}} + \left(\frac{1}{2}\beta + 2\alpha\right) \square_{\bar{g}} R_{\bar{g}} \bar{g} - (2\alpha + \beta) \bar{\nabla}^2 R_{\bar{g}} - 2\beta \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}} \cdot \text{Riem}_{\bar{g}} \\ & + 2\alpha R_{\bar{g}} \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}} - \frac{1}{2} \alpha R_{\bar{g}}^2 \bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \beta \langle \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}}, \text{Ric}_{\bar{g}} \rangle_{\bar{g}} \bar{g} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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## Physical Motivations

Some observations are not coherent with GR predictions (galactic rotational curves)

Either

- ▶ We modify the data (Dark Matter)
- ▶ We modify the theory (Fourth order gravity, conformal gravity, Lovelock theories)

$S(\bar{g})$  is a good candidate :

- ▶  $EH$  is an elastic energy,  $S$  is a higher order elastic energy
- ▶  $G_{\bar{g}} = 0 \implies A_{\bar{g}} = 0$

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$A = 0$  becomes

$$\begin{cases} \square_{\bar{g}} R_{\bar{g}} = 0 \\ \square_{\bar{g}} G_{\bar{g}\mu\nu} + 2 \left( \text{Riem}_{\bar{g}}^{\tau}{}_{\mu\lambda\nu} - \frac{\text{Ric}_{\bar{g}\lambda}^{\tau}}{4} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} \right) G_{\bar{g}\tau}^{\lambda} = 0. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Finding a solution splits into  $G_{\bar{g}} = T$  with  $T$  an inertial energy-momentum tensor solution of

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$$3\alpha + \beta = 0$$

$$S(\bar{g}) = \frac{3}{2} \int_V |W_{\bar{g}}|^2 d\text{vol}_{\bar{g}} + 48\pi^2 \chi(V),$$

$W$  is the Weyl tensor and  $\chi(V)$  is topological. For  $n = 3$ ,  $B = \int_V |W_{\bar{g}}|^2 d\text{vol}_{\bar{g}}$  is a conformal invariant, and so is  $S$ .

- ▶ Conformal gravity/Bach-flat spaces
- ▶ Fiedler-Schimming-Mannheim-Kazanas (FSMK) metrics :

$$\bar{g}_{FS}(m, \Lambda, \mu) = -f(r)dt^2 + \frac{1}{f(r)}dr^2 + r^2 g_{S^2}$$

$$f(r) \doteq 1 - 3m\mu - \frac{m}{r} - \mu(3m\mu - 2)r - \frac{\Lambda}{3}r^2$$

- ▶  $\mu$  is linked to the rotational speed curves in conformal gravity.

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## Working spaces

### Definition

$(V, \bar{g})$  is an AM spacetime of order  $\tau$  if there exists a coordinate system at  $\infty$   $\Phi : E_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{B}$  such that in those coordinates  $\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = \xi_{\mu\nu} + O(|x|^{-\tau})$ .

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Let  $(V, \bar{g})$  be an AM Einstein spacetime, and  $\hat{g}$  another AM Einstein metric with a Killing vector field  $\zeta$ .

Let  $\bar{h} := \bar{g} - \hat{g}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta) \doteq (DG_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h})(\zeta, \cdot)$ .

With Bianchi :

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div}_{\bar{g}}(G_{\bar{g}}) = 0 &= \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g} + \bar{h}}(G_{\hat{g} + \bar{h}}) = \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}}(G_{\hat{g}}) + \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}} DG_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h} + o(\bar{h}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}} DG_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h} + o(\bar{h}), \end{aligned}$$

and thus  $\operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}} (\mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta)) = 0$ .

If  $(V, \bar{g})$  is foliated by Riemannian manifolds  $(M_t, g_t)$  :

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When the exterior boundary  $\rightarrow \infty$ , we get the conserved quantity

$$\mathcal{E}_{\hat{g}}(\zeta, \bar{h}) = \int_M \langle \mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta), \hat{n} \rangle_{\hat{g}} d\operatorname{vol}_{\hat{g}} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{S_r} \mathcal{Q}(\zeta, \hat{\nu}).$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div}_{\bar{g}}(G_{\bar{g}}) = 0 &= \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g} + \bar{h}}(G_{\hat{g} + \bar{h}}) = \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}}(G_{\hat{g}}) + \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}} DG_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h} + o(\bar{h}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}} DG_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h} + o(h), \end{aligned}$$

and thus  $\operatorname{div}_{\hat{g}}(\mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta)) = 0$ .

If  $(V, \bar{g})$  is foliated by Riemannian manifolds  $(M_t, g_t)$  :

$$\int_{K_0} \langle \mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta), \hat{n} \rangle_{\hat{g}} d\operatorname{vol}_{\hat{g}} = \int_{K_1} \langle \mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta), \hat{n} \rangle_{\hat{g}} d\operatorname{vol}_{\hat{g}} + \int_{\text{exterior boundary}} \mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta) \cdot \hat{\nu}$$

When the exterior boundary  $\rightarrow \infty$ , we get the conserved quantity

$$\mathcal{E}_{\hat{g}}(\zeta, \bar{h}) = \int_M \langle \mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta), \hat{n} \rangle_{\hat{g}} d\operatorname{vol}_{\hat{g}} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{S}_r} \mathcal{Q}(\zeta, \hat{\nu}).$$

Taking  $\zeta = \partial_t + O(|x|^{-\tau})$  (+ simplifying hypotheses) yields :

$$m_{ADM} \doteq \frac{1}{16\pi} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{S_r} (\partial_i g_{ij} - \partial_j g_{ii}) \nu^j d\omega_r.$$

Taking  $\partial_{x_i}$  yields the momentum, rotations yields the angular momentum etc. . .

These quantities are geometric and control the geometry of  $M$ .

- ▶  $\text{div}(A) = 0$ ?
- ▶ Bianchi is a consequence of Noether's theorem applied with the invariance by diffeomorphisms
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## Proposition

Given  $(M \times \mathbb{R}, \hat{g})$  an AM spacetime satisfying  $A_{\hat{g}} = 0$  and admitting a Killing field  $\zeta$ , then the energy associated to a perturbation  $\bar{h}$  of  $\hat{g}$  defined by

$$\mathcal{E}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}) \doteq \int_M \langle \mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(\bar{h}, \zeta), \hat{n} \rangle_{\hat{g}} d\text{vol}_{\hat{g}},$$

with  $\mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}}(h, \zeta) \doteq (DA_{\hat{g}} \cdot h)(\zeta, \cdot)$ , is conserved, provided it is defined. It can be written as an integral at infinity

$$\mathcal{E}_{\hat{g}}(M, h) = - \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\partial K_r} \mathcal{Q}(\hat{n}, \hat{\nu}) d(\partial K_r).$$

## Proposition

If  $\hat{g}$  is Einstein with cosmological constant  $\Lambda$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\tau\mu} = & - \left\{ \beta d\mathcal{P}_{\hat{g}\tau\mu}^{GR}(\bar{h}, \zeta) + 2\beta \left( \text{Ric}'_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h}_{\tau\nu} \hat{\nabla}_{\mu} \zeta^{\nu} - \text{Ric}'_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} \hat{\nabla}_{\tau} \zeta^{\nu} \right) \right. \\ & - (2\alpha + \beta) \left( \hat{\nabla}_{\mu} (R'_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h}) \zeta_{\tau} - \hat{\nabla}_{\tau} (R'_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h}) \xi_{\mu} \right) - (2\alpha - \beta) R'_{\hat{g}} \cdot \bar{h} \nabla_{\tau} \zeta_{\mu} \\ & \left. - 2(4\alpha + \beta) \Lambda Q_{\hat{g}\tau\mu}^{GR}(\bar{h}, \zeta) - 2\beta \Lambda \left( \bar{h}_{\tau\nu} \hat{\nabla}_{\mu} \zeta^{\nu} - \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} \hat{\nabla}_{\tau} \zeta^{\nu} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

► Constant sectional curvature case :

- S. Deser and B. Tekin, Energy in generic higher curvature gravity theories, Phys. Rev. D 67, 084009 (2003).

- With  $\hat{g} = \xi + O(r^{-\hat{\tau}})$ ,  $\zeta = \partial_t + O(r^{-\hat{\tau}})$ ,  
 $\bar{g} = \bar{h} + \hat{g} = \xi + O(r^{-\tau})$  in ADM formalism  $(N, X, g)$  :

$$\begin{aligned}
 -Q(\hat{n}, \hat{\nu})|_{t=0} &= \left( \frac{3}{2}\beta + 2\alpha \right) (\partial_j \partial_i \partial_i g_{aa} - \partial_j \partial_u \partial_i g_{ui}) \hat{\nu}^j \\
 &+ \frac{\beta}{2} (\partial_i \ddot{g}_{ji} - \partial_j \ddot{g}_{ii}) \hat{\nu}^j \\
 &+ \frac{\beta}{2} (\partial_i \partial_j \dot{X}_i - \partial_i \partial_i \dot{X}_j) \hat{\nu}^j + (\beta + 2\alpha) \partial_j \partial_i \partial_i N^2 \hat{\nu}^j \\
 &- (\beta + 2\alpha) \partial_j \ddot{g}_{ii} \hat{\nu}^j + 2(\beta + 2\alpha) \partial_j \partial_i \dot{X}_i \hat{\nu}^j \\
 &+ O_1(r^{-\hat{\tau}-3}) + O_1(r^{-(\hat{\tau}+\tau)-3}).
 \end{aligned}$$



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## Definition

When  $\bar{g}$  an AM solution of  $A_{\bar{g}} = 0$ , we define its energy as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha,\beta}(\bar{g}) = & \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( \frac{3}{2}\beta + 2\alpha \right) \int_{S_r^{n-1}} (\partial_j \partial_i \partial_i g_{aa} - \partial_j \partial_u \partial_i g_{ui}) \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r \right. \\ & + \frac{\beta}{2} \int_{S_r^{n-1}} (\partial_i \ddot{g}_{ji} - \partial_j \ddot{g}_{ii}) \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r + \frac{\beta}{2} \int_{S_r^{n-1}} (\partial_i \partial_j \dot{X}_i - \partial_i \partial_i \dot{X}_j) \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r \\ & \left. + (\beta + 2\alpha) \left( \int_{S_r^{n-1}} \partial_j \partial_i \partial_i N^2 \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r - \int_{S_r^{n-1}} \partial_j \ddot{g}_{ii} \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r + 2 \int_{S_r^{n-1}} \partial_j \partial_i \dot{X}_i \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

when the limit exists.

## Testing it when $3\alpha + \beta = 0$

- ▶ FSMK metrics:

$$\bar{g}_{FS}(m, \Lambda, \mu) = -f(r)dt^2 + \frac{1}{f(r)}dr^2 + r^2 g_{S^2}$$

$$f(r) \doteq 1 - 3m\mu - \frac{m}{r} - \mu(3m\mu - 2)r - \frac{\Lambda}{3}r^2$$

- ▶ We can take  $\tau < 0$ ! In particular  $n = 3$  we can take  $\tau = -1$ .
- ▶ With  $\hat{g} = \text{Schwarzschild}$ ,  $\hat{\tau} = 1$ ,  $\tau = -1$ , we compute

$$\mathcal{E}_{\alpha, \beta}(\bar{g}_{FS}) = 8\pi\mu(3m\mu - 2).$$

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If  $(M \times \mathbb{R}, \bar{g})$  is stationary, that is

$$\bar{g} = -N^2 dt^2 + g,$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha, \beta}(\bar{g}) = & \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \left( \frac{3}{2}\beta + 2\alpha \right) \int_{S_r^{n-1}} (\partial_j \partial_i \partial_i g_{aa} - \partial_j \partial_u \partial_i g_{ui}) \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r \right. \\ & \left. + (\beta + 2\alpha) \int_{S_r^{n-1}} \partial_j \partial_i \partial_i N^2 \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r \right\} \end{aligned}$$

and in the particular case  $2\alpha + \beta = 0$ , we get a fully Riemannian expression

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(g) &= - \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{S_r^{n-1}} (\partial_j \partial_i \partial_i g_{aa} - \partial_j \partial_u \partial_i g_{ui}) \hat{\nu}^j d\omega_r \\ &= - \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{S_r^{n-1}} \partial_r R_g r^{n-1} d\omega \\ &= - \int_M \Delta_g R_g d\text{vol}_g. \end{aligned}$$

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$$Q_g = -\frac{1}{2(n-1)}\Delta_g R_g - \frac{2}{(n-2)^2}|\text{Ric}_g|_g^2 + \frac{n^3 - 4n^2 + 16n - 16}{8(n-1)^2(n-2)^2}R_g^2.$$

## Proposition

Let  $(M^n, g)$  an AE manifold such that

- 1 There exists a structure at infinity  $\Phi$  such that  $g_{ij} = \delta_{ij} + O_4(r^{-\tau})$ , with  $\tau > \tau_n \doteq \max\{0, \frac{n-4}{2}\}$ ;
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## Positivity and Rigidity

### Theorem

If in addition  $Q_g \geq 0$  and  $Y([g]) > 0$ , then  $\mathcal{E}(g) \geq 0$ , with equality iff  $(M, g)$  is eucliden.

### Idea of the proof :

- ▶  $Y([g]) > 0 : \tilde{g} = u^{\frac{4}{n-2}} g$  s.t.  $R_{\tilde{g}} = 0$ .
- ▶ Conformal deformations are predicted with the Paneitz operator :  
for  $n \neq 4$ ,  $\Phi \doteq u^{-\frac{n-4}{n-2}}$ ,  $g = \Phi^{\frac{4}{n-4}} \tilde{g}$ , then

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- Since  $R_{\tilde{g}} = 0$ ,  $Q_{\tilde{g}} = -\frac{2}{(n-2)^2} |\text{Ric}_{\tilde{g}}|_{\tilde{g}}^2$

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- $\mathcal{E}(g) \geq 0$  with equality iff  $Q_g \equiv 0$  and  $\tilde{g}$  is flat.
- Then  $\frac{n-4}{2} \Phi^{\frac{n+4}{n-4}} Q_g = P_{\tilde{g}} \Phi$  yields  $\Delta^2 \Phi = 0$ , which ensures  $g = \delta$ .
- For  $n = 4$  only the formula for Paneitz changes.

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2 <sup>nd</sup> order	4 <sup>th</sup> order
Scalar curvature	$Q$ curvature
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$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega_R} \operatorname{div}_g(G_J(X, \cdot)) d\operatorname{vol}_g &= \int_{\partial\Omega_R} G_J(X, \nu) d\omega_g = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_R} \langle G_J, \mathcal{L}_X g \rangle_g d\operatorname{vol}_g \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_R} \langle G_{J_g}, \mathcal{L}_{g, \operatorname{conf}} X \rangle_g d\operatorname{vol}_g + \frac{2-n}{4n} \int_{\Omega_R} Q_g \operatorname{div}_g X d\operatorname{vol}_g \end{aligned}$$

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## Theorem

If  $(M^n, g)$  is AE and  $J_g = 0$ ,  $Y([g]) > 0$  then  $(M^n, g) \cong (\mathbb{R}^n, \cdot)$ .

Idea: rigidity in the positive mass theorem But: the decay needs to be high enough

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## Riemannian formalism

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