

Math 180

Introduction to General Relativity

Winter 2018

Blake Temple MSB 3148

Bainer 1060 10-10:50

Office Hrs: MWF 2:30 - 3:30 Appt

Einstein 1915  
(Introduction)

$$G = K T$$

Einstein  
Curvature  
Tensor

Const  
of  
Nature

stress  
Energy  
Tensor

$$K = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}$$

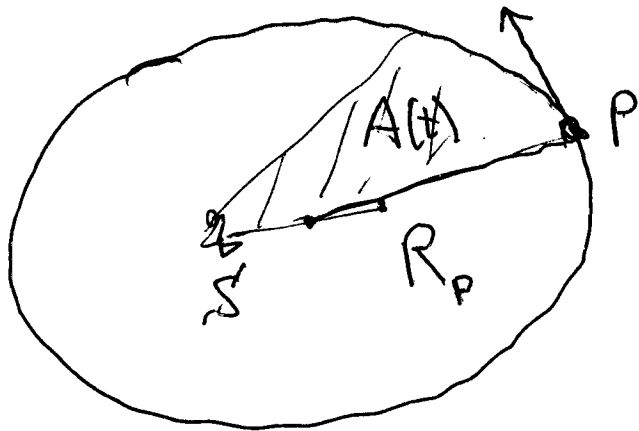
"Energy & the flow of energy creates spacetime curvature" ( $E = mc^2$  so everything converts to energy)

T measures: "Energy density momentum density & their fluxes"  $= \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{vol}}, \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{area time}}$

G measures spacetime curvature

Picture: Einstein's Theory replaced Newton's Laws as the fundamental explanation for gravity — <sup>(2)</sup>

Q: why do the planets orbit the sun?



Kepler's 3 Laws: (1609)

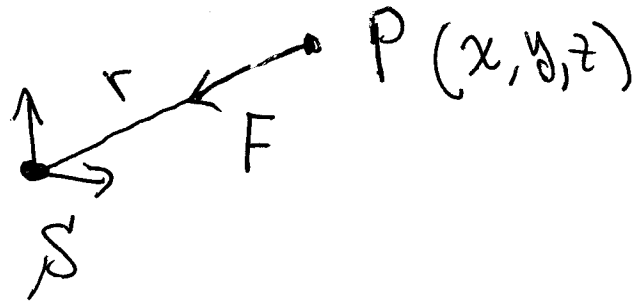
- (1) Planets move in elliptical orbits around the Sun with sun at focus of ellipse
- (2) Planets sweep out equal area in equal time

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \text{const}$$

- (3)  $\frac{T_P^2}{R_P^3} = \text{const}$  indept of planet.

• Newton 1687 (Principia): Derived Kepler's Laws from principle that the sun was pulling on the planets with an inverse square force  $\approx$  spring (Hooke's idea)

Newton Force Law  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$  position of planet



$$\vec{F} = -G \frac{M_s M_p}{r^2} \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$$

"Inverse square force pointing from planet back toward sun"

$$\vec{F} = M_p \cdot \vec{a}, \quad \vec{a} = \ddot{\vec{r}} = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} [\vec{r}(t)]$$

$$M_p \ddot{\vec{r}} = -G \frac{M_s M_p}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

Newton :

$$\ddot{\vec{r}} = -GM_s \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$

(4)

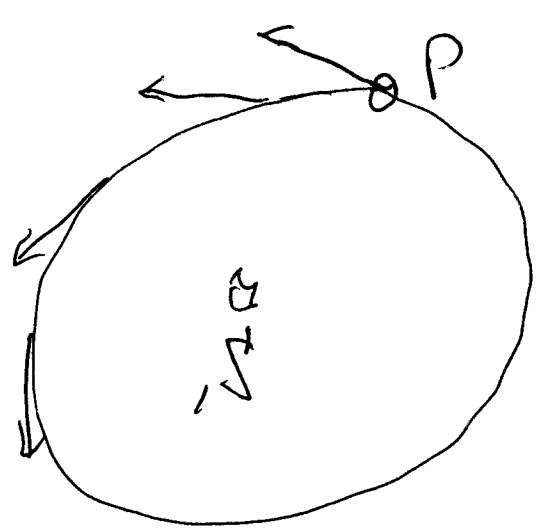
"The equation for motion of planet is independent of the planet!"

I.e., "a feather & the earth follow the same path if given same initial cond't's!"

I.e. "The sun pulls on every object with a different force (depending on mass), but it all works out so every object follows the same path!"

Einstein's Idea - Makes more sense that the sun is creating the paths, not producing forces like springs.

• Einstein: The sun is curving the space around it and the planet is moving in a straight line in a curved space



free fall path is an ellipse

Q: How do you make sense of this?

"The space itself is the unknown since the space creates the curves"

Q: What are the equations that determine the space?

Answer: Its not space, but spacetime that is curved.

The equations (1915 after 9 years of struggle)

$$G = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T$$

Q: Whats the unknown?

Ans: The gravitational metric tensor

$g_{ij}(\vec{x}, t) \leftarrow$  4x4 symmetric matrix  
 $i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3$   
 $\Rightarrow$  10 unknown functions  
depending on  $(\vec{x}, t)$   
 $\underline{x} = (t, \vec{x})$

Q: How many pages of 12 pt font text to write out equations w/o using any summation signs etc?  $\approx$  250 pages!

Q: How do you understand something so complicated?

Ans: Tensors for notation

Geometry for understanding their meaning

Netshell:

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} g_{ij}} = \underbrace{T(s, p, u)}$$

2nd derivative of metric tensor

T measure energy density

measure curvature

$$\frac{\text{mom}}{\text{vol}} = \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{area} \cdot \text{time}}$$

## Topics:

- ① Metric / Manifolds / Tensors
- ② Special Relativity
- ③ Connection
- ④ Curvature (Riemann)
- ⑤ Einstein's Equation  $G = \kappa T$
- ⑥ Schwarzschild metric (Black Holes)
- ⑦ Cosmology

Idea: Present the correct framework (tensors) to understand Einstein's theory, but skip technical details.