

Solution of the semiclassical Einstein equations with possible interpretation in cosmology²

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Plan of the Talk

- ▶ Introduction (Classical cosmological scenario)
- ▶ Semiclassical Einstein's equation
- ▶ Stress-Energy Tensor regularization
- ▶ Solution with scalar conformal fields as sources
- ▶ Solution with massive fields as sources

Cosmological scenario: geometry and matter

- ▶ **Physical input:** Universe is homogeneous and isotropic.
Then FRW metric:

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a(t)^2 \left(\frac{dr^2}{1 + \kappa r^2} + r^2 d\Sigma^2 \right).$$

$\kappa = 0$ flat, $\kappa = \pm 1$ open or closed.

- ▶ recent observation: $a(t) \simeq Ce^{Ht}$, and $\kappa \simeq 0$.
- ▶ Take a classical fluid for matter: $T_a{}^b = (-\rho, P, P, P)$
- ▶ Einstein's equations become FRW equations $H = \dot{a}a^{-1}$

$$3H^2 = 8\pi\rho - \frac{3\kappa}{a^2}, \quad 3\dot{H} + 3H^2 = -4\pi(\rho + 3P)$$

- ▶ Eventually we shall use

$$-R = 8\pi T, \quad \nabla^a T_{ab} = 0$$

it is equivalent up to an initial condition.



Cosmological scenario: observation

- ▶ If we use **Radiation**, **Dust** and **cosmological constant** to model the present day observations:
 - ▶ Radiation is less important. $\rho_R \sim a(t)^{-4}$
 - ▶ We look for a mixture of $\rho_M \sim a(t)^{-3}$ and $\rho_\Lambda \sim C$

We have a problem

in modeling CMB and Supernovae red-shift observation:

Total **Energy density** is:

\sim **75%** *Cosmological constant*, \sim **25%** *Dust*.

Known matter: only \sim **4%**.

- ▶ Let's try to see the role of **quantum effects**.

Gravity: semiclassical approximation

- ▶ We would like to have a quantum theory of gravity.
- ▶ **Too difficult.**
- ▶ At least we would like to have a theory of backreaction.
- ▶ We try semiclassically.

$$G_{ab} = 8\pi \langle T_{ab} \rangle.$$

- ▶ It should work: when fluctuation of $\langle T_{ab} \rangle$ are negligible.
- ▶ As in atomic physics: quantum mechanical electron with external classical field.

Wald Axioms

In QM T_{ab} are singular objects $\langle T_{ab} \rangle \rightarrow \infty$.

We need a renormalisation prescription for T_{ab} on CST.

Wald axioms \implies meaningful semiclassical approx.

[Wald 77] [Wald 78]

- (1.) It must agree with formal results for T_{ab}
(For scalar: $(\Phi, T_{ab}\Psi)$, can be found formally if $(\Phi, \Psi) = 0$).
- (2.) Regularization of T_{ab} in Minkowski coincide with “normal ordering”.
- (3.) Conservation: $\nabla^a \langle T_{ab} \rangle = 0$.
- (4.) Causality: $\langle T_{ab} \rangle$ at p depends only on $J^-(p)$.
- (5.) T_{ab} depends on derivatives of the metric up to the second order (or third).

Matter: Scalar free field theory

- ▶ **Equation of motion:** We will consider $\xi = 1/6$.

$$P := -\square + \xi R + m^2, \quad P\phi = 0.$$

- ▶ **Stress-Energy Tensor:**

$$T_{ab} := \partial_a \phi \partial_b \phi - \frac{1}{6} g_{ab} (\partial_c \phi \partial^c \phi + m^2 \phi^2) - \xi \nabla_{(a} \partial_{b)} \phi^2 \\ + \xi \left(R_{ab} - \frac{R}{6} g_{ab} \right) \phi^2 + \left(\xi - \frac{1}{6} \right) g_{ab} \square \phi^2.$$

- ▶ Conservation equations, and trace.

$$\nabla_a T^a_b = 0, \quad T = -3 \left(\frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) \square \phi^2 - m^2 \phi^2.$$

- ▶ It differs by the usual one by terms of the form:

$$g_{ab} (\phi P \phi + P \phi \phi) \quad [Moretti 2003].$$

Quantum field theory

- ▶ States in QFT are described by n -point functions.
- ▶ Quasi free states ω described by the two-points function

$$\omega_2(x, y) = \langle \phi(x)\phi(y) \rangle$$

thought as distribution in $\mathcal{D}'(M \times M)$.

- ▶ T_{ab} arises as an operation on ω_2 and a coinciding point limit.
- ▶ It is not well defined...
- ▶ Quasifree states that possess Hadamard property:
[Radzikowski 1995] [Brunetti Fredenhagen Köhler 1996]
- ▶ **Physically:** The fluctuations of the field are always finite on Hadamard states.

Hadamard Two-points function

$$\omega_2 = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left(\frac{u}{\sigma_\epsilon} + v \log \sigma_\epsilon + w \right).$$

- ▶ σ is half of the square of the geodesic distance ,
- ▶ u v w are smooth functions,
- ▶ u depends only upon the geometry via g_{ab}
- ▶ v depends upon g_{ab} , ξ and m^2
- ▶ w characterizes the state.

The singular Structure $\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left(\frac{u}{\sigma} + v \log \sigma \right)$ is fixed and does not depend on the state.

Some notations:

$$v = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n \sigma^n \qquad [v](x) = v(x, x)$$

Later we will use $[v_1]$

Regularization of the two-points function

Regularization with point splitting: Minimal requirement.

$$\langle \phi(x)\phi(y) \rangle_\omega := \omega_2(x, y) - \mathbf{H}(x, y)$$

It reduces to normal ordering for flat spacetime.

T_{ab} build on it. [*Hollands Wald, Brunetti Fredenhagen Verch, Moretti*]

$$8\pi^2 \langle \phi P \phi \rangle_\omega = 6[v_1], \quad 8\pi^2 \langle (\nabla_a \phi)(P \phi) \rangle_\omega = 2\nabla_a[v_1]$$

Conservation equation for T_{ab} are satisfied quantum mechanically

$$\nabla_a \langle T^a_b \rangle_\omega = 0$$

but (un)-fortunately the trace is different from the classical one.

$$\langle T \rangle_\omega := \frac{2[v_1]}{8\pi^2} + \left(-3 \left(\frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) \square - m^2 \right) \frac{[w]}{8\pi^2}.$$

Some (long) computations.....

... or a look in the literature (for example [\[Fulling\]](#)) gives

$$2[v_1] = \frac{1}{360} \left(C_{ijkl} C^{ijkl} + R_{ij} R^{ij} - \frac{R^2}{3} + \square R \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{6} - \xi \right)^2 R^2 +$$

$$+ \frac{m^4}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) m^2 R + \frac{1}{12} \left(\frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) \square R.$$

Remaining freedom

In the trace $c\Box R$. Wald's fifth axiom does not hold!

- ▶ **Other** regularization methods give different stress-energy tensors.
- ▶ **Difference:** We can add conserved tensors t_{ab} build out of the metric, m and ξ only.
- ▶ It must behave as $\langle T_{ab} \rangle$ under “scale” transformations.
- ▶ Some possibilities arises from the variation of

$$t_{ab} = \frac{\delta}{\delta g^{ab}} \int \sqrt{g} \left(C R^2 + D R_{ab} R^{ab} \right)$$

- ▶ The trace t_a^a is proportional to $\Box R$
- ▶ We use this freedom to cancel the $\Box R$ term from $\langle T \rangle$.

Some Remarks:

- ▶ Wald's fifth axiom partially holds for $\langle T'_{ab} \rangle = \langle T_{ab} \rangle - t_{ab}$.
- ▶ **General principle of local covariance:** When regularization freedom is fixed in a region, is fixed in every spacetime.
[Brunetti Fredenhagen Verch 2003].
- ▶ The remaining freedom is $\langle \phi^2 \rangle'_\omega = \langle \phi^2 \rangle_\omega + A m^2 + B R$.
- ▶ But we can not completely cancel $[v_1]$ from $\langle T \rangle_\omega$.
- ▶ Similarities with $f(R)$ gravity, but t_{ab} alone does not guaranty stable solutions.

With $\kappa = 0$ and $\xi = 1/6$, the equation $-R = 8\pi \langle T \rangle$ becomes

$$-6 \left(\dot{H} + 2H^2 \right) = -8\pi G m^2 \langle \phi^2 \rangle_\omega + \frac{G}{\pi} \left(-\frac{1}{30} \left(\dot{H}H^2 + H^4 \right) + \frac{m^4}{4} \right)$$

Conformal invariant theory

If $\xi = \frac{1}{6}$, $m^2 = 0$, the equation does not depend on the state.

$$\dot{H} \left(H^2 - \frac{H_c^2}{2} \right) = -H^4 + H_c^2 H^2, \quad H_c^2 = \frac{360\pi}{G}$$

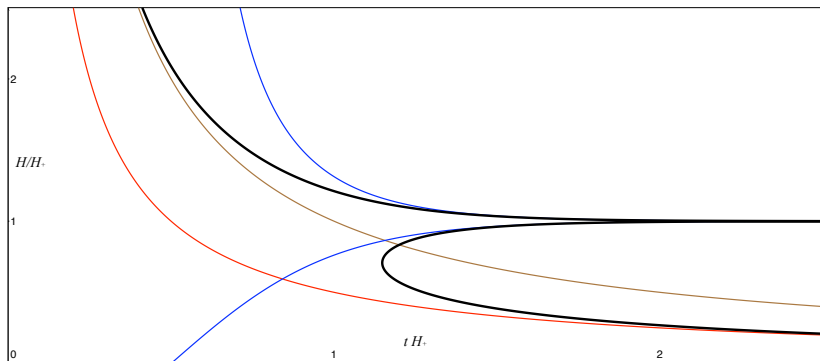
$H^2 = H_c^2$ and $H^2 = 0$ are solutions (*de Sitter, Minkowski*).

They are both stable as seen by the full solution

$$Ce^{4t} = e^{2/H} \left| \frac{H + H_c}{H - H_c} \right|^{1/H_c}$$

- It is as in the Starobinsky model but now with stable de Sitter. [*Starobinsky 80, Vilenkin 85*]

Clearly $H = 0$ and $H = H_c = H_+$ are stable solutions.



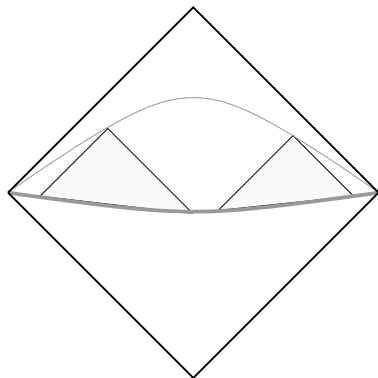
- ▶ $H = H_c$ is order of magnitude too big to describe the present expansion velocity of the universe.
- ▶ Two fixed points instead of one, a length scale is introduced (proportional to G).

Particle horizon

Maximal **comoving distance** (if $c = 1$) it is $\tau = \int_t^{t_1} \frac{dt}{a(t)}$.

Where is the singularity t_0 in the Penrose diagram?

Consider: $ds^2 = a^2 (-d\tau^2 + dx^2)$.



- ▶ Radiation dominated:
 $\tau = \tau_0 - A(t - t_0)^{1/2} \rightarrow \tau_0$
 for $t \rightarrow t_0$
- ▶ Matter dominated:
 $\tau = \tau_0 - A(t - t_0)^{1/3} \rightarrow \tau_0$
 for $t \rightarrow t_0$
- ▶ $\rho = 1/a(t)^2$
 $\tau = \tau_0 - \log(t - t_0) \rightarrow -\infty$
 for $t \rightarrow t_0$

Massive model

Important: The quantum states enter in the equation via $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$.
We would like to use “**vacuum states**”.

Impossible. Adiabatic states, have similar properties.

[Parker, Parker and Fulling, Lüders Roberts, Junker Schrohe, Olbermann]

- ▶ Minimize the particle creation rate. *[Parker]*
- ▶ Minimal smeared energy in the sense of Fewster. *[Olbermann]*
- ▶ They can be thought as approximated ground states.

They are build in an approximated way by a sequence of ω_n .

We expand it in powers of $1/m^2$

$$\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{(n)} = Am^2 + BR + O\left(\frac{1}{m^2}\right)$$

The regime $m^2 \gg R$ is what we need. If $m = 1\text{GeV}$ $\frac{m^2}{R} \sim 10^{82}$

We have three parameters A, B, m .

$$\dot{H} (H^2 - H_0^2) = -H^4 + 2H_0^2 H^2 + M$$

where H_0 and M are two constants with the following values

$$H_0^2 = \frac{180\pi}{G} - 1440\pi^2 m^2 B, \quad M = \frac{15}{2} m^4 - 240\pi^2 m^4 A$$

At most two fixed stable points (de Sitter phases)

$$H_{\pm}^2 = H_0^2 \pm \sqrt{H_0^4 + M}.$$

We want to have **Minkowski** $H_- = 0$, $\implies A = (32\pi^2)^{-1}$.

Freedom in m and B to “*Fine tune*” H_+ .

- ▶ H_+ can be made small by suitable choices of m^2 and A, B
- ▶ It could model dark energy.
- ▶ Quantum effects are hardly negligible.

Summary

- ▶ There is a regularization freedom not fixed by QFT.
- ▶ Semiclassical solutions of Einstein's equation fix in some sense the freedom.
- ▶ The solutions depend upon the quantum states.
- ▶ The de Sitter phases could be stable only fixing the renormalisation freedom.

Open Questions

- ▶ What happens considering more realistic models?
- ▶ Fluctuations?
- ▶ Connection with $f(R)$ gravity?
- ▶ Origin of R^2 terms in the action? An hint on quantum gravity?