


# Semiclassical Einstein equations: A solution with implications in cosmology<sup>2</sup>

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# Summary

- ▶ Cosmological Scenario
- ▶ Semiclassical Einstein equation
- ▶ Stress Tensor regularization
- ▶ Solution with massless scalar fields as sources
- ▶ Solution with massive fields as sources

## Cosmological scenario: geometry

- ▶ 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  $\kappa \simeq 0$ .

Solutions that have the FRW form.

## Cosmological scenario: matter

- ▶ We model  $T_{ab}$  with a perfect fluid

$$T_{ab} = \rho u_a u_b + P(g_{ab} + u_a u_b).$$

Homogeneity and isotropy  $\implies u = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ ,  $\rho(t)$  and  $P(t)$

- ▶ Einstein equations become FRW equations  $H = \dot{a}a^{-1}$

$$3H^2 = 8\pi\rho - \frac{3\kappa}{a^2} \quad (1)$$

$$3\dot{H} + 3H^2 = -4\pi(\rho + 3P) \quad (2)$$

- ▶ Type of fluids:  $P = w\rho$  and conservation equation

- ▶ Radiation:  $w = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\rho_R \sim a(t)^{-4}$
- ▶ Dust:  $w = 0$ ,  $\rho_M \sim a(t)^{-3}$
- ▶ Cosmological constant:  $w = -1$ ,  $\rho_\Lambda = C$



## Cosmological scenario: observation

- ▶ If we use this to model the present day observation:
  - ▶ Radiation is not important.
  - ▶ We look for a mixture of  $\rho_M$  and  $\rho_\Lambda$
- ▶ To model CMB and Supernovae red-shift observation:

### We have a problem

Energy density:  $\sim 70\%$  *Dark Energy*,  $\sim 30\%$  *Matter*.

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 in some regimes. As in atomic physics: quantum mechanical electron with external classical field.

## Range of validity of semiclassical approximation

- ▶ A complete satisfactory semiclassical description is impossible. (quantum matter is a source for gravity).
- ▶ It should be valid whenever quantum fluctuations are negligible.
- ▶ In some model it is unavoidable: Particle creation. (Ex: black holes radiates)
  - ▶ Are there quantum effects that can be seen?
  - ▶ How is modified the vacuum energy?
  - ▶ How can be treated the backreaction effects?
  - ▶ Is it a small effect?
  - ▶ What implication has the quantum origin of matter on the solutions?

## Wald Axioms

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

We need a renormalization 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.)  $T_{ab}$  should be normal ordering in Minkowski
- (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).



# Nice Environment

## Problem:

How can we treat matter without fixing the spacetime?

- ▶ We can quantize simultaneously and coherently on all spacetime. *[Brunetti Fredenhagen Verch 2003]*.
- ▶ Quantum Fields are particular observables that transform suitably under isomorphisms.
- ▶ We need another ingredient: reference states on every spacetime.
- ▶ Einstein eq.
  - ▶ Einstein: consistency criterion.
  - ▶ Selects particular elements of the category of local Manifolds and of then of local Algebras.

# What we need to search in a quantum theory

Instead of considering FRW equation we use the following.

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

- ▶ Up to some initial condition this is equivalent to FRW.
- ▶ We get

$$3H^2 = 8\pi\rho + 8\pi\frac{C}{a^4} - \frac{3\kappa}{a^2}.$$

$C$  is fixed knowing the whole  $T_{ab}$ .

- ▶ But it is simpler to perform quantum computation.

# Matter: Scalar free field theory

Equation of motion

$$P := -\square + \xi R + V, \quad P\phi = 0$$

We will be interested in the case  $V = m^2$  and  $\xi = 1/6$ .

Stress Tensor:

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

Differ by the usual one by terms of the form  $\phi P \phi$  [*Moretti 2002*].

## Remarks on $T_{ab}$

- ▶ Trace

$$T = -3 \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) \square \phi^2 - V \phi^2$$

where we have used  $\phi P \phi = 0$  to simplify.

- ▶ Conservation equation

$$\nabla_a T^a_b = -\frac{1}{2} \phi^2 \partial_b V$$

- ▶ Classical Ambiguity:  $\phi P \phi = 0$

$$T'_{ab} = T_{ab} + C g_{ab} (\phi P \phi + P \phi \phi)$$

- ▶  $T_{ab}$  can be written by means of balanced derivatives and derivatives of the field  $\phi^2$

## Quantum field theory

- ▶ QFT described by  $n$ -point functions.
- ▶ Quasi free states  $\omega$  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  $\omega_2$  and a coinciding point limit.
- ▶ It is not well defined...
- ▶ Quasifree states that possess Hadamard property  
*[Radzikowski 1995] [Brunetti Fredenhagen Köhler 1996]*

$$\text{WF}(\omega_2) = \{((x_1, k_1), (x_2, k_2)) \in T^*M^2 / \{0\} : -P_\gamma k_2 = k_1 > 0\}$$

- ▶ Physically: The fluctuations of the field are always finite on Hadamard states.

## Hadamard Two-points function

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

- ▶  $u$   $v$   $w$  are smooth functions,
- ▶  $u$  depends only upon the geometry via  $g_{ab}$
- ▶  $v$  depends upon  $g_{ab}$ ,  $\xi$  and  $V$
- ▶  $w$  characterizes the state.

Some notations:  $\sigma$  half of the square of the geodesic distance

$$v = \sum v_n \sigma^n \quad [v](x) = v(x, x)$$

The singular Structure  $H$  is fixed and does not depend on the state.

## Regularization of the two-points function

Quantum Problem. Regularization with point splitting procedure

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

It reduces to normal ordering for flat spacetime.

*[Hollands Wald, Brunetti Fredenhagen Verch, Moretti]*

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

The conservation equation are satisfied also quantum mechanically

$$\nabla_a \langle : T^a_b : \rangle_\omega = -\frac{1}{2} \langle : \phi^2 : \rangle_\omega \partial_b V = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{[w]}{8\pi^2} \partial_b V$$

but unfortunately 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 computations.....

$$\begin{aligned}
 2[v_1] = & \frac{1}{360} \left( C_{ijkl} C^{ijkl} + R_{ij} R^{ij} - \frac{R^2}{3} + \square R \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right)^2 R^2 + \\
 & + \frac{m^4}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) m^2 R + \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) \square R.
 \end{aligned}$$



## Remaining freedom

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

- ▶ We can add conserved tensors  $t_{ab}$  build by curvature only.
- ▶ It must behave as  $T_{ab}$  under "scale" transformations.
- ▶ Some possibilities arises from the variation of

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

- ▶  $t_a^a = \alpha \square R$
- ▶ We use this freedom to cancel the  $\square R$  term from  $\langle : T : \rangle$ .

Wald's fifth axiom partially holds for  $\langle : T'_{ab} : \rangle = \langle : T_{ab} : \rangle - ct_{ab}$

$f(R)$  gravity .....

NB:  $t_{ab}$  alone does not guaranty stable solutions.

*[Cognola Elizalde Odintsov Zerbini 05, Cognola Zerbini 06]*

## Equation of the universe

Assuming  $\kappa = 0$ , we write the equation  $-R = 8\pi \langle : T : \rangle$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 -6 \left( \dot{H} + 2H^2 \right) &= 8\pi G \left( -3 \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) \square - m^2 \right) \langle : \phi^2 : \rangle_\omega + \\
 + \frac{G}{\pi} &\left( -\frac{1}{30} \left( \dot{H}H^2 + H^4 \right) + 9 \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right)^2 \left( \dot{H}^2 + 4H^2\dot{H} + 4H^4 \right) \right) \\
 + \frac{G}{\pi} &\left( \frac{m^4}{4} - 3 \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) m^2 \left( \dot{H} + 2H^2 \right) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $\xi = 1/6$ , namely for the conformal coupling it simplifies a lot:

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

## Conformal invariant theory

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

$$\dot{H} \left( H^2 - \frac{H_c^2}{2} \right) = -H^4 + H_c^2 H^2, \quad H_c^2 = 180 \frac{\sqrt{2}\pi}{G}$$

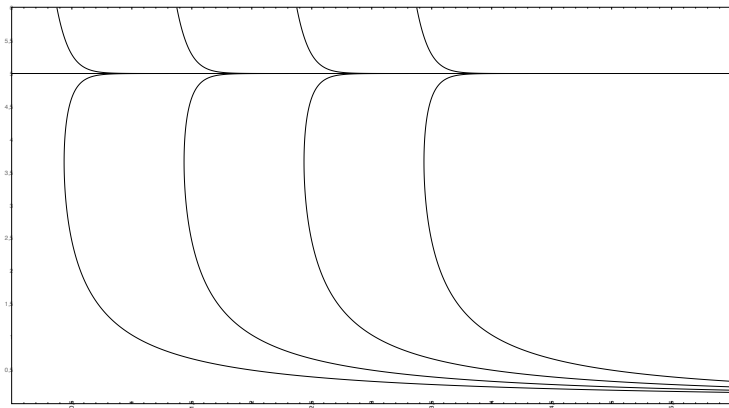
$H = H_c^2$  and  $H^2 = 0$  are solutions (de Sitter, Minkowski).

They are both stable as seen by the general solution

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

- ▶ It is as in the Starobinsky model but now with stable de Sitter. [*Starobinsky 80, Vilenkin 85*]
- ▶  $H = H_c$  is order of magnitude too big to describe the present expansion velocity of the universe.

For  $H_c = 5$ . Clearly  $H = H_0$  and  $H = H_c$  are stable solutions.



## Massive model

The state enters through  $\langle : \phi^2 : \rangle$ . Choose  $\langle : \phi^2 : \rangle = A - BR$

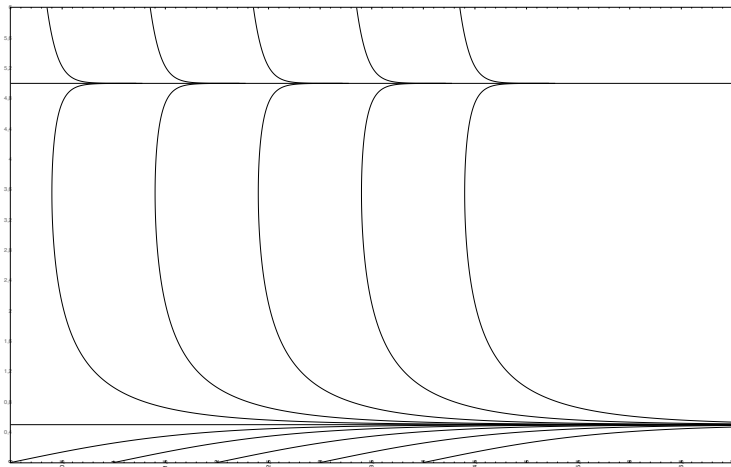
$$\dot{H} (H^2 - H_0^2) = -H^4 + 2H_0^2 H^2 - M$$

where  $H_0$  and  $M$  are two constants with the following values

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

If  $0 < M < H_0^4$ , two fixed stable solutions (de Sitter phases)

$$H_{\pm}^2 = H_0^2 \pm \sqrt{H_0^4 - M},$$



- ▶  $H_-$  can be made small by suitable choices of  $m^2$  and  $A, B$
- ▶ It models dark energy. ( $T$  in general is not 0)
- ▶ Smooth exit from rapid expansion in the past. [\[Shapiro Sola 02\]](#) ↻ 🔍

## Massive models and adiabatic vacuum $\langle : \phi^2 : \rangle$

On dS Bunch Davies state gives the expected result for  $\langle : \phi^2 : \rangle$ .

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

We consider the following conformal transformation

$$\gamma_{ab} = -\frac{g_{ab}}{a(t)^2}, \quad \tau = \int \frac{dt}{a(t)} \quad \phi = a^{-1} \tilde{\phi}$$

$$-\square_{\gamma} \tilde{\phi} + a(\tau)^2 m^2 \tilde{\phi} = 0$$

Hadamard states remain Hadamard under conformal transformation.

$$-[H] + \frac{[\tilde{H}]}{a^2} = -\frac{R}{18} - \log a$$

The general solution can be expanded in modes:

$$\tilde{\phi} = \int d^3k T_k e^{ikx} f(k)$$

## Two-points function

The two-points function of the adiabatic vacuum state:

$$\tilde{\omega}_2(x_1, x_2) = \int d^3k \overline{T}_k(\tau_1) T_k(\tau_2) e^{ik(x_1 - x_2)}$$

$$\left( \dot{\overline{T}}_k T_k - \overline{T}_k \dot{T}_k \right) = i \quad \text{WKB approximation} \quad T_k(\tau) = \frac{e^{i \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \Omega_k d\tau}}{\sqrt{2\Omega_k}}$$

Then  $\Omega$  must satisfy the following equation

$$\Omega_k^2 = k^2 + m^2 a(\tau)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{\Omega'_k}{\Omega_k} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Omega''_k}{\Omega_k}$$

Recursively  $\Omega_k^{(0)} = k^2 + m^2 a(\tau)^2$  and  $\Omega_k^{(n+1)}$  plugging  $\Omega_k^{(n)}$  on the right.

$$\langle : \tilde{\phi}^2 : \rangle \sim \int dk k^2 \left( \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(n)}} - \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(0)}} \right) + a(\tau)^2 \log(a(\tau)) + a(\tau)^2 C(m^2)$$



## Approximation

Transforming back to the original spacetime

$$\langle : \phi^2 : \rangle = C(m^2) - \frac{R}{18} + \frac{1}{a^2} \int dk k^2 \left( \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(n)}} - \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(0)}} \right)$$

- ▶ 0-order O.K.
- ▶ 1-order already a problem!

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\infty dk k^2 \left( \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(1)}} - \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(0)}} \right) = 0$$

- ▶ ?

The first approximation with a constant is not so bad. ok!

## Summary

- ▶ Semiclassical solution of Einstein equation.
- ▶ The solutions depend on the quantum states.
- ▶ The de Sitter phases could be stable only by modifying the ren. prescription.

## Open Questions

- ▶ How can we choose a nicer state?
- ▶ Fluctuations?
- ▶ Inflation?
- ▶ Connection with  $f(R)$  gravity?
- ▶ Origin of  $R^2$  terms in the action? An hint on quantum gravity?

# First order approximation

$$\int_0^\infty dk k^2 \left( \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(1)}} - \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(0)}} \right) =$$

$$a^2 m^2 \int_1^\infty d\omega \sqrt{\omega^2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{(a^2)''}{4a^4\omega^4 m^2} + \frac{5}{4} \frac{(a')^2}{a^4\omega^6 m^2}}} \right)$$

We use the  $\Omega_k^{(n)}(t_0)$  and  $\dot{\Omega}_k^{(n)}(t_0)$  as initial condition for  $S_k^{(n)}$ .

$$\omega_2^{(n)}(x_1, x_2) = \int d^3k \overline{S_k^{(n)}}(\tau_1) S_k^{(n)}(\tau_2) e^{ik(x_1 - x_2)}$$

$\omega^{(n)}$  adiabatic state of order  $n$ .

In fact: Be  $\omega_2^H$  the two-points function of an Hadamard state then

$$\text{WF}^s(\omega_2^{(n)} - \omega_2^H) = \emptyset \quad s < 2(n) + 3/2$$

If  $n$  is large enough this condition says that

$$\omega_2^{(n)} - \omega_2^H \in H^s$$

Then, for Sobolev imbedding theorem, if  $s \geq 3/2$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) it is in  $C^0(\mathcal{O})$ .

$$\langle : \tilde{\phi}^2 : \rangle \sim \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x,x)} \left( \omega_2^{(n)} - \tilde{H} \right) (x, y)$$

$x, y$  are on the same  $t = t_0$  surface.

$$\tilde{H}(x, y) = \int_0^\infty dk \frac{k^2 e^{ik(x-y)}}{\sqrt{k^2 - m^2 a(\tau)^2}} - a(\tau)^2 \log(a(\tau)) - a(\tau)^2 C(m^2)$$

$$C(m^2) = \left( \frac{m^2}{4} (\log(m^2) + 2\gamma + 1) \right)$$

$$\langle : \tilde{\phi}^2 : \rangle \sim \int dk k^2 \left( \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(n)}} - \frac{1}{2\Omega_k^{(0)}} \right) + a(\tau)^2 \log(a(\tau)) + a(\tau)^2 C(m^2)$$