General Relativity

Prof. Dr. H.-P. Nilles

1. Bianchi Identities

(a) Verify the *Bianchi identities*

$$R_{\lambda\mu\nu\kappa;\eta} + R_{\lambda\mu\eta\nu;\kappa} + R_{\lambda\mu\kappa\eta;\nu} = 0, \qquad (1)$$

where $X_{;\nu}$ denotes the covariant derivative

$$X^{\mu\cdots}{}_{\nu\cdots;\rho} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\rho}} X^{\mu\cdots}{}_{\nu\cdots} + \Gamma^{\mu}{}_{\rho\sigma} X^{\sigma\cdots}{}_{\nu\cdots} + \dots - \Gamma^{\sigma}{}_{\nu\rho} X^{\mu\cdots}{}_{\sigma\cdots} - \dots$$
(2)

Use the fact that (1) is explicitly covariant and work in a locally inertial system where the Γs (but not their derivatives) vanish.

- (b) Why is $g_{\mu\nu;\rho}$ always zero?
- (c) Use (b) to contract the indices in (1) multiple times to arrive at

$$(R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}R)_{;\mu} = 0.$$
(3)

What does this imply for energy-momentum conservation in General Relativity?

2. Energy-Momentum in Hydrodynamics

A comoving observer in a *perfect fluid* will by definition see his surroundings as isotropic. In this frame, the energy-momentum tensor will be

$$\tilde{T}^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} , \qquad (4)$$

where ρ is the density and p the pressure of the liquid.

- (a) Calculate the energy-momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}$ for the rest frame. Assume the comoving observer's velocity to be \vec{v} .
- (b) Show that $T^{\mu\nu}$ can also be written as

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (p+\rho) U^{\mu}U^{\nu} + p \eta^{\mu\nu}$$
(5)

where U^{μ} is the four-velocity of the fluid.

(c) Consider an ideal gas (point particles that only interact in local collisions). Its energy-momentum tensor is

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \sum_{N} \frac{p_{N}^{\mu} p_{N}^{\nu}}{E_{N}} \,\delta^{3}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{N}) \,. \tag{6}$$

Calculate the density ρ and pressure p for a comoving observer.

(d) What is the relation between ρ and p for a non-relativistic gas? What is the relation for a highly relativistic gas? (What relation exists between E and \vec{p} in those limits? Use the particle number density $n \equiv \sum_{N} \delta^{3}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{N})$.)