

# Newman-Penrose basis and gravitational waves

## Preliminaries

---

### Load tensor packages

```
In[*]:= << xAct`xPert`

-----
Package xAct`xPerm` version 1.2.3, {2015, 8, 23}
Copyright (C) 2003–2020, Jose M. Martin-Garcia, under the General Public License.
Connecting to external linux executable...
Connection established.

-----
Package xAct`xTensor` version 1.1.5, {2021, 2, 28}
Copyright (C) 2002–2021, Jose M. Martin-Garcia, under the General Public License.

-----
Package xAct`xPert` version 1.0.6, {2018, 2, 28}
Copyright (C) 2005–2020, David Brizuela, Jose M. Martin-Garcia
and Guillermo A. Mena Marugan, under the General Public License.

-----
These packages come with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY; for details type
Disclaimer[]. This is free software, and you are welcome to redistribute
it under certain conditions. See the General Public License for details.

-----
** Variable $PrePrint assigned value ScreenDollarIndices
** Variable $CovDFormat changed from Prefix to Postfix
** Option AllowUpperDerivatives of ContractMetric changed from False to True
** Option MetricOn of MakeRule changed from None to All
** Option ContractMetrics of MakeRule changed from False to True
```

```
In[*]:= << xAct`xCoba`
```

```
-----
Package xAct`xCoba` version 0.8.6, {2021, 2, 28}
CopyRight (C) 2005-2021, David Yllanes and
Jose M. Martin-Garcia, under the General Public License.
-----
```

```
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it under certain conditions. See the General Public License for details.
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```

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## Nicer printing

```
In[*]:= $PrePrint = ScreenDollarIndices;
In[*]:= $CovDFormat = "Prefix";
In[*]:= $CVVerbose = False;
In[*]:= $CIndexForm = True;
```

---

## Make rules from equations

```
In[*]:= mkrgeq[Equal] := MakeRule[Evaluate[List @@ eq], MetricOn → All, ContractMetrics → True]
In[*]:= mkr0[eq_Equal] :=
  MakeRule[Evaluate[List @@ eq], MetricOn → None, ContractMetrics → False]
```

---

## Object definitions

### Spacetime manifold

The spacetime manifold  $M$ , on which tensors will be defined. Some Greek letters are defined as tangent space indices.

```
In[*]:= DefManifold[M, 4, { $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $\psi$ ,  $\kappa$ ,  $\zeta$ }]
** DefManifold: Defining manifold M.
** DefVBundle: Defining vbundle TangentM.
```

## Coordinates

In the following, we will use a coordinate chart  $(t, x, y, z)$ .

```

In[*]:= DefTensor[tt[], {M}, PrintAs → "t"]
** DefTensor: Defining tensor tt[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[xx[], {M}, PrintAs → "x"]
** DefTensor: Defining tensor xx[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[yy[], {M}, PrintAs → "y"]
** DefTensor: Defining tensor yy[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[zz[], {M}, PrintAs → "z"]
** DefTensor: Defining tensor zz[].

In[*]:= DefChart[coord, M, {0, 1, 2, 3}, {tt[], xx[], yy[], zz[]}, ChartColor → Blue]
** DefChart: Defining chart coord.
** DefMapping: Defining mapping coord.
** DefMapping: Defining inverse mapping icoord.
** DefTensor: Defining mapping differential tensor dicoord[-α, icoordα].
** DefTensor: Defining mapping differential tensor dcoord[-α, coordα].
** DefBasis: Defining basis coord. Coordinated basis.
** DefCovD: Defining parallel derivative PDcoord[-α].
** DefTensor: Defining vanishing torsion tensor TorsionPDcoord[α, -β, -γ].
** DefTensor: Defining symmetric Christoffel tensor ChristoffelPDcoord[α, -β, -γ].
** DefTensor: Defining vanishing Riemann tensor RiemannPDcoord[-α, -β, -γ, ζ].
** DefTensor: Defining vanishing Ricci tensor RicciPDcoord[-α, -β].
** DefTensor: Defining antisymmetric +1 density etaUpcoord[α, β, γ, ζ].
** DefTensor: Defining antisymmetric -1 density etaDowncoord[-α, -β, -γ, -ζ].

```

## Newman-Penrose basis

The most important step is the introduction of a new, complex, double-null basis, known as the Newman-Penrose basis. This is not a coordinate basis.

```

In[*]:= DefBasis[newpen, TangentM, {0, 1, 2, 3},
  BasisChange → CTensor[{{1, 0, 0, 1}, {1, 0, 0, -1}/2, {0, 1, I, 0}/Sqrt[2],
    {0, 1, -I, 0}/Sqrt[2]}, {-newpen, coord}], BasisColor → Red]

```

```

** DefBasis: Defining basis newpen.
** DefCovD: Defining parallel derivative PDnewpen[- $\alpha$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining torsion tensor TorsionPDnewpen[ $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining non-symmetric Christoffel tensor ChristoffelPDnewpen[ $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining vanishing Riemann tensor RiemannPDnewpen[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ,  $\zeta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining vanishing Ricci tensor RicciPDnewpen[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining Jacobiancoordnewpen[].
** DefTensor: Defining tensor ChristoffelPDcoordPDnewpen[ $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining antisymmetric +1 density etaUpnewpen[ $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\zeta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining antisymmetric -1 density etaDownnewpen[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ , - $\zeta$ ].

```

```

In[*]:= newpen /: CIndexForm[0, newpen] := "l";

```

```

In[*]:= newpen /: CIndexForm[1, newpen] := "n";

```

```

In[*]:= newpen /: CIndexForm[2, newpen] := "m";

```

```

In[*]:= newpen /: CIndexForm[3, newpen] := "m̄";

```

---

## Metric

The metric  $g$  of signature  $(-, +, +, +)$ . The Levi-Civita derivative of a tensor  $A_\mu$  will be written as  $\nabla_\mu A_\nu$  in prefix notation or  $A_{\nu;\mu}$  in postfix notation.

```

In[*]:= DefMetric[{3, 1, 0}, Met[- $\mu$ , - $\nu$ ], CD, {";", "\nabla"}, PrintAs  $\rightarrow$  "g"]

```

```

** DefTensor: Defining symmetric metric tensor Met[- $\mu$ , - $\nu$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining antisymmetric tensor epsilonMet[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ , - $\zeta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining tetrametric TetraMet[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ , - $\zeta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining tetrametric TetraMet[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ , - $\zeta$ ].
** DefCovD: Defining covariant derivative CD[- $\mu$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining vanishing torsion tensor TorsionCD[ $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining symmetric Christoffel tensor ChristoffelCD[ $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining Riemann tensor RiemannCD[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ , - $\zeta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining symmetric Ricci tensor RicciCD[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ ].
** DefCovD: Contractions of Riemann automatically replaced by Ricci.
** DefTensor: Defining Ricci scalar RicciScalarCD[].
** DefCovD: Contractions of Ricci automatically replaced by RicciScalar.
** DefTensor: Defining symmetric Einstein tensor EinsteinCD[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining Weyl tensor WeylCD[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ , - $\zeta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining symmetric TFRicci tensor TFRicciCD[- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ ].
** DefTensor: Defining Kretschmann scalar KretschmannCD[].
** DefCovD: Computing RiemannToWeylRules for dim 4
** DefCovD: Computing RicciToTFRicci for dim 4
** DefCovD: Computing RicciToEinsteinRules for dim 4
** DefTensor: Defining weight +2 density DetMet[]. Determinant.

```

```

In[*]:= DefMetricPerturbation[Met,  $\delta$ Met,  $\epsilon$ , PrintAs  $\rightarrow$  "h"]

```

```

** DefParameter: Defining parameter  $\epsilon$ .
** DefTensor: Defining tensor  $\delta$ Met[LI[order], - $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ ].

```

---

## Wave covector

In the following we will study a plane wave, whose propagation is governed by a constant wave covector and frequency.

```

In[*]:= DefTensor[wav[- $\mu$ ], {M}, PrintAs  $\rightarrow$  "k"]

```

```

** DefTensor: Defining tensor wav[- $\mu$ ].

```

```

In[*]:= DefConstantSymbol[freq, PrintAs  $\rightarrow$  " $\omega$ "]

```

```

** DefConstantSymbol: Defining constant symbol freq.

```

---

## Lorentz transformation

We further study Lorentz transformations, which leave the wave covector invariant.

```
In[*]:= DefTensor[lor[μ, -ν], {M}, PrintAs → "Λ"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor lor[μ, -ν].

In[*]:= DefConstantSymbol[ar, PrintAs → "ℛα"]
      ** DefConstantSymbol: Defining constant symbol ar.

In[*]:= DefConstantSymbol[ai, PrintAs → "ℐα"]
      ** DefConstantSymbol: Defining constant symbol ai.

In[*]:= DefConstantSymbol[phi, PrintAs → "ϕ"]
      ** DefConstantSymbol: Defining constant symbol phi.
```

---

## Newman-Penrose quantities

The following quantities serve as the relevant components of the curvature tensor in the Newman-Penrose basis.

```
In[*]:= DefTensor[psi2[], {M}, PrintAs → "Ψ₂"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor psi2[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[psi3[], {M}, PrintAs → "Ψ₃"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor psi3[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[psi3b[], {M}, PrintAs → "Ψ̄₃"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor psi3b[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[psi4[], {M}, PrintAs → "Ψ₄"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor psi4[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[psi4b[], {M}, PrintAs → "Ψ̄₄"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor psi4b[].

In[*]:= DefTensor[phi22[], {M}, PrintAs → "Φ₂₂"]
      ** DefTensor: Defining tensor phi22[].
```

---

## Scalar field

Finally, we also define a scalar field, so that we can study gravitational waves in scalar-tensor gravity.

```
In[*]:= DefTensor[scal[], {M}, PrintAs -> "ψ"]
** DefTensor: Defining tensor scal[].
```

## Component values

### Basis transformation

Let us first have a look at the vectors which span the Newman-Penrose basis. Here are the components of the vectors  $l, n, m, \bar{m}$ , expressed in the coordinate basis.

```
In[*]:= BasisValues[-newpen, coord]
Out[*]=
FoldedRule[{},
{e_l^t -> 1, e_l^x -> 0, e_l^y -> 0, e_l^z -> 1, e_n^t -> 1/2, e_n^x -> 0, e_n^y -> 0, e_n^z -> -1/2, e_m^t -> 0,
e_m^x -> 1/sqrt(2), e_m^y -> i/sqrt(2), e_m^z -> 0, e_m_bar^t -> 0, e_m_bar^x -> 1/sqrt(2), e_m_bar^y -> -i/sqrt(2), e_m_bar^z -> 0}]
```

```
In[*]:= ToValues[ComponentArray[Basis[{-μ, -newpen}, {v, coord}]]]
Out[*]=
{{1, 0, 0, 1}, {1/2, 0, 0, -1/2}, {0, 1/sqrt(2), i/sqrt(2), 0}, {0, 1/sqrt(2), -i/sqrt(2), 0}}
```

### Background metric

This is the Minkowski background metric in its familiar form in the coordinate basis.

```
In[*]:= AllComponentValues[Met[{-μ, -coord}, {-v, -coord}], DiagonalMatrix[{-1, 1, 1, 1}]];
In[*]:= ToValues[ComponentArray[Met[{-μ, -coord}, {-v, -coord}]]] // MatrixForm
Out[*]//MatrixForm=
(-1 0 0 0)
( 0 1 0 0)
( 0 0 1 0)
( 0 0 0 1)
```

### Metric in Newman-Penrose basis

We now transform the metric into the Newman-Penrose basis. Note that the diagonal elements vanish, showing that the basis is composed of null vectors.

```
In[*]:= ChangeComponents[Met[{-μ, -newpen}, {-v, -newpen}], Met[{-μ, -coord}, {-v, -coord}]];
```

Computed  $g_{\alpha\nu} \rightarrow e_{\nu}^{\beta} g_{\alpha\beta}$  in 0.136436 Seconds

Computed  $g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow e_{\mu}^{\alpha} g_{\alpha\nu}$  in 0.130780 Seconds

```
In[ ]:= ToValues[ToValues[ComponentArray[Met[{-μ, -newpen}, {-ν, -newpen}]]]];
AllComponentValues[Met[{-μ, -newpen}, {-ν, -newpen}], %];
```

```
In[ ]:= ToValues[ComponentArray[Met[{-μ, -newpen}, {-ν, -newpen}]]] // MatrixForm
```

```
Out[ ]//MatrixForm=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Dependent tensors

Additionally, we compute tensors derived from the metric, such as the Riemann tensor and inverse metric.

```
In[ ]:= MetricCompute[Met, coord, All]
```

```
** DefTensor: Defining weight +2 density DetMetcoord[]. Determinant.
```

```
** DefTensor: Defining tensor ChristoffelCDPDcoord[α, -β, -γ].
```

```
In[ ]:= ChangeComponents[Met[{μ, newpen}, {ν, newpen}], Met[{μ, coord}, {ν, coord}]];
```

Computed  $g^{\alpha\nu} \rightarrow e_{\beta}^{\nu} g^{\alpha\beta}$  in 0.171582 Seconds

Computed  $g^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow e_{\alpha}^{\mu} g^{\alpha\nu}$  in 0.154904 Seconds

```
In[ ]:= ToValues[ToValues[ComponentArray[Met[{μ, newpen}, {ν, newpen}]]]];
AllComponentValues[Met[{μ, newpen}, {ν, newpen}], %];
```

## Wave covector

Next, we write the wave covector in coordinates, and transform it into the Newman-Penrose basis.

```
In[ ]:= AllComponentValues[wav[{-μ, -coord}], {1, 0, 0, -1} freq]
```

```
Out[ ]:=
```

```
FoldedRule[{}, {k_t → ω, k_x → 0, k_y → 0, k_z → -ω}]
```

```
In[ ]:= ChangeComponents[wav[{-μ, -newpen}], wav[{-μ, -coord}]];
```

Computed  $k_{\mu} \rightarrow e_{\mu}^{\alpha} k_{\alpha}$  in 0.041498 Seconds



```

In[ ]:= ToValues[ToValues[ComponentArray[wav[{-μ, -newpen}]]]];
AllComponentValues[wav[{-μ, -newpen}], %]
Out[ ]:=
FoldedRule[{}, {kl → 0, kn → ω, km → 0, km̄ → 0}]

In[ ]:= ChangeComponents[wav[{μ, coord}], wav[{-μ, -coord}]];
Computed kμ → gμα kα in 0.022574 Seconds

In[ ]:= ToValues[ToValues[ComponentArray[wav[{μ, coord}]]]];
AllComponentValues[wav[{μ, coord}], %]
Out[ ]:=
FoldedRule[{}, {kt → -ω, kx → 0, ky → 0, kz → -ω}]

In[ ]:= ChangeComponents[wav[{μ, newpen}], wav[{-μ, -coord}]];
Computed kβ → gβα kα in 0.019325 Seconds

Computed kμ → eμα kα in 0.028670 Seconds

In[ ]:= ToValues[ToValues[ComponentArray[wav[{μ, newpen}]]]];
AllComponentValues[wav[{μ, newpen}], %]
Out[ ]:=
FoldedRule[{}, {kl → -ω, kn → 0, km → 0, km̄ → 0}]

```

---

## Plane wave

Finally, for the plane wave we will have the property that its derivative is proportional to the wave covector.

```

In[ ]:= {CD[-ρ][δMet[LI[1], -μ, -ν]] == wav[-ρ] × δMet[LI[1], -μ, -ν] I,
CD[-ρ][scal[]] == wav[-ρ] × scal[] I, CD[-ρ][wav[-μ]] == 0}
plawa = Flatten[mkr g /@ %];
Out[ ]:=
{∇ρ h1μν == i kρ h1μν, ∇ρ ψ == i ψ kρ, ∇ρ kμ == 0}

```

# Perturbative expansion and Newman-Penrose variables

---

## Riemann tensor

Let us now calculate the Riemann tensor for a linear perturbation around the Minkowski metric, which is given by a plane wave. Here we also use the fact that the Riemann tensor of the background vanishes to simplify the calculation.

```
In[*]:= RiemannCD[-σ, -ρ, -ν, -μ]
Perturbation[%];
ExpandPerturbation[%];
% /. RiemannCD → Zero;
% // p1.wa;
ContractMetric[%];
ToCanonical[%]
ToBasis[newpen][%];
ComponentArray[%];
ToCanonical[%];
ToValues[%];
AllComponentValues[
  RiemannCD[-{σ, newpen}, -{ρ, newpen}, -{ν, newpen}, -{μ, newpen}], %];
%[[2]]
```

Out[\*]=

$R[\nabla]_{\sigma\rho\nu\mu}$

Out[\*]=

$$\frac{1}{2} k_\nu k_\sigma h^1_{\mu\rho} - \frac{1}{2} k_\nu k_\rho h^1_{\mu\sigma} - \frac{1}{2} k_\mu k_\sigma h^1_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{2} k_\mu k_\rho h^1_{\nu\sigma}$$

Out[\*]=

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{n}} &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{l}}, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}}, \\ R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}}, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, \\ R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{l}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}}, \\ R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{n}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}}, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}}, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0, & R[\nabla]_{\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{m}} &\rightarrow 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

## Newman-Penrose quantities

We then introduce the definition of the Newman-Penrose quantities. Note the appearance of a factor  $-\omega^2$ , indicating a second order derivative of the metric components.

```
In[*]:= {psi2[] == -RiemannCD[{0, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}, {0, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}]/6,
psi3[] == -RiemannCD[{3, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}, {0, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}]/2,
psi3b[] == -RiemannCD[{2, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}, {0, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}]/2,
psi4[] == -RiemannCD[{3, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}, {3, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}],
psi4b[] == -RiemannCD[{2, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}, {2, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}],
phi22[] == -RiemannCD[{3, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}, {2, -newpen}, {1, -newpen}]}
npndefeq = ToValues[%]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\left\{ \Psi_2 == -\frac{1}{6} R[\nabla]_{\underline{l}\underline{n}\underline{l}\underline{n}}, \Psi_3 == -\frac{1}{2} R[\nabla]_{\overline{m}\underline{n}\underline{l}\underline{n}}, \right. \\ \left. \overline{\Psi}_3 == -\frac{1}{2} R[\nabla]_{\underline{m}\underline{n}\underline{l}\underline{n}}, \Psi_4 == -R[\nabla]_{\overline{m}\overline{m}\underline{n}\underline{n}}, \overline{\Psi}_4 == -R[\nabla]_{\underline{m}\underline{m}\underline{n}\underline{n}}, \Phi_{22} == -R[\nabla]_{\overline{m}\underline{n}\underline{m}\underline{n}} \right\}$$

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\left\{ \Psi_2 == -\frac{1}{12} \omega^y h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{l}}, \Psi_3 == -\frac{1}{4} \omega^y h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}}, \overline{\Psi}_3 == -\frac{1}{4} \omega^2 h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}}, \right. \\ \left. \Psi_4 == -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}}, \overline{\Psi}_4 == -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\underline{m}\underline{m}}, \Phi_{22} == -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}} \right\}$$

These are the potentials and the relevant components of the metric perturbation in the Newman-Penrose basis:

```
In[*]:= nppot = npndefeq[[All, 1]]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\{\Psi_2, \Psi_3, \overline{\Psi}_3, \Psi_4, \overline{\Psi}_4, \Phi_{22}\}$$

```
In[*]:= metpot = Select[Flatten[ComponentArray[δMet[LI[1], -{μ, newpen}, -{ν, newpen}]]],
Not[FreeQ[npndefeq, #]] &]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\{h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{l}}, h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}}, h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}}, h^1_{\underline{m}\underline{m}}, h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}}, h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}}\}$$

For convenience, we introduce some rules to convert between Newman-Penrose variables and metric components.

```
In[*]:= nptomet = Solve[npndefeq, nppot][[1]]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\left\{ \Psi_2 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{12} \omega^2 h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{l}}, \Psi_3 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{4} \omega^2 h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}}, \overline{\Psi}_3 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{4} \omega^2 h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}}, \right. \\ \left. \Psi_4 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}}, \overline{\Psi}_4 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\underline{m}\underline{m}}, \Phi_{22} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}} \right\}$$

```
In[*]:= mettonp = Solve[npndefeq, metpot][[1]]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\left\{ h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{l}} \rightarrow -\frac{12 \Psi_2}{\omega^2}, h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}} \rightarrow -\frac{4 \overline{\Psi}_3}{\omega^2}, h^1_{\underline{l}\underline{m}} \rightarrow -\frac{4 \Psi_3}{\omega^2}, h^1_{\underline{m}\underline{m}} \rightarrow -\frac{2 \overline{\Psi}_4}{\omega^2}, h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}} \rightarrow -\frac{2 \Phi_{22}}{\omega^2}, h^1_{\overline{m}\underline{m}} \rightarrow -\frac{2 \Psi_4}{\omega^2} \right\}$$

# Lorentz transformation

## Ansatz for Lorentz transformation

Let us make the following ansatz for a Lorentz transformation:

```
In[*]:= AllComponentValues[lor[{\mu, newpen}, -{v, newpen}],
  Transpose[{{1, 0, 0, 0}, {ar^2 + ai^2, 1, Exp[I phi] (ar - I ai), Exp[-I phi] (ar + I ai)},
    {ar + I ai, 0, Exp[I phi]}, 0}, {ar - I ai, 0, 0, Exp[-I phi]}]]]
```

Out[\*]=

```
FoldedRule[{}, {
  \Lambda^l_l \to 1, \Lambda^l_n \to I\alpha^2 + \mathcal{R}\alpha^2, \Lambda^l_m \to iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha, \Lambda^l_{\bar{m}} \to -iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha,
  \Lambda^n_l \to 0, \Lambda^n_n \to 1, \Lambda^n_m \to 0, \Lambda^n_{\bar{m}} \to 0, \Lambda^m_l \to 0, \Lambda^m_n \to (-iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha) e^{i\phi},
  \Lambda^m_m \to e^{i\phi}, \Lambda^m_{\bar{m}} \to 0, \Lambda^{\bar{m}}_l \to 0, \Lambda^{\bar{m}}_n \to (iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha) e^{-i\phi}, \Lambda^{\bar{m}}_m \to 0, \Lambda^{\bar{m}}_{\bar{m}} \to e^{-i\phi}}]
```

## Check Lorentz transformations

Check that the ansatz preserves the metric:

```
In[*]:= Met[-\rho, -\sigma] \times lor[\rho, -\mu] \times lor[\sigma, -v] - Met[-\mu, -v]
  ToBasis[newpen][%];
  TraceBasisDummy[%];
  ComponentArray[%];
  ToCanonical[%];
  ToValues[%];
  Simplify[%]
```

Out[\*]=

$$-\mathfrak{g}_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda^\rho_\mu \Lambda^\sigma_\nu \mathfrak{g}_{\rho\sigma}$$

Out[\*]=

```
{{0, 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0, 0}}
```

Check that the ansatz preserves the wave covector:

```
In[*]:= wav[-v] × lor[v, -μ] - wav[-μ]
ToBasis[newpen][%];
TraceBasisDummy[%];
ComponentArray[%];
ToCanonical[%];
ToValues[%];
Simplify[%]
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$-k_\mu + \Lambda^\nu_\mu k_\nu$$

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\{0, 0, 0, 0\}$$

## Lorentz transformation of Newman-Penrose quantities

Now we can transform the metric using the Lorentz transformation defined above.

```
In[*]:= δMet[LI[1], -ρ, -σ] × lor[ρ, -μ] × lor[σ, -ν]
ToBasis[newpen][%];
TraceBasisDummy[%];
ComponentArray[%];
ToCanonical[%];
ToValues[%];
tramet = Simplify[%];
```

```
Out[*]=
```

$$\Lambda^\rho_\mu \Lambda^\sigma_\nu h^1_{\rho\sigma}$$

This is the transformation of the relevant metric components.

```
In[*]:= TableForm[
metru = MapThread[Rule, {metpot, Extract[tramet, Join@@(Position[ComponentArray[
δMet[LI[1], -{μ, newpen}, -{ν, newpen}]]], #] & /@ metpot]], 1]
```

```
Out[*]//TableForm=
```

$$\begin{aligned} h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} &\rightarrow h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} \\ h^1_{\llcorner m} &\rightarrow (i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha) h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} + e^{i\phi} h^1_{\llcorner m} \\ h^1_{\llcorner \bar{m}} &\rightarrow (-i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha) h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} + e^{-i\phi} h^1_{\llcorner \bar{m}} \\ h^1_{m m} &\rightarrow (i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha)^2 h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} + 2 (i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha) e^{i\phi} h^1_{\llcorner m} + e^{2i\phi} h^1_{m m} \\ h^1_{m \bar{m}} &\rightarrow (I \alpha - i \mathcal{R} \alpha) (I \alpha + i \mathcal{R} \alpha) h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} + (-i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha) e^{i\phi} h^1_{\llcorner m} + (i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha) e^{-i\phi} h^1_{\llcorner \bar{m}} + h^1_{m \bar{m}} \\ h^1_{\bar{m} \bar{m}} &\rightarrow (-i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha)^2 h^1_{\llcorner\llcorner} + 2 (-i I \alpha + \mathcal{R} \alpha) e^{-i\phi} h^1_{\llcorner \bar{m}} + e^{-2i\phi} h^1_{\bar{m} \bar{m}} \end{aligned}$$

We can express the rules above also in terms of the Newman-Penrose variables.

```
In[*]:= TableForm[npru = MapThread[Rule, {nppot, Simplify[nppot /. nptomet /. metru /. mettonp]}, 1]]
```

```
Out[*]//TableForm=
```

$$\Psi_2 \rightarrow \Psi_2$$

$$\Psi_3 \rightarrow -3iI\alpha\Psi_2 + 3\mathcal{R}\alpha\Psi_2 + e^{-i\phi}\Psi_3$$

$$\bar{\Psi}_3 \rightarrow 3iI\alpha\Psi_2 + 3\mathcal{R}\alpha\Psi_2 + e^{i\phi}\bar{\Psi}_3$$

$$\Psi_4 \rightarrow -6I\alpha^2\Psi_2 + 6\mathcal{R}\alpha^2\Psi_2 + 4\mathcal{R}\alpha e^{-i\phi}\Psi_3 - 4iI\alpha(3\mathcal{R}\alpha\Psi_2 + e^{-i\phi}\Psi_3) + e^{-2i\phi}\Psi_4$$

$$\bar{\Psi}_4 \rightarrow -6I\alpha^2\Psi_2 + 6\mathcal{R}\alpha^2\Psi_2 + 4\mathcal{R}\alpha e^{i\phi}\bar{\Psi}_3 + 4iI\alpha(3\mathcal{R}\alpha\Psi_2 + e^{i\phi}\bar{\Psi}_3) + e^{2i\phi}\bar{\Psi}_4$$

$$\Phi_{22} \rightarrow \Phi_{22} + 6(I\alpha^2 + \mathcal{R}\alpha^2)\Psi_2 + 2(iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha)e^{-i\phi}\Psi_3 + 2(-iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha)e^{i\phi}\bar{\Psi}_3$$

The transformation is governed by the following matrix.

```
In[*]:= MatrixForm[Transpose[FullSimplify[Coefficient[npru[[All, 2]], #] & /@ nppot]]
```

```
Out[*]//MatrixForm=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3(-iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha) & e^{-i\phi} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3(iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha) & 0 & e^{i\phi} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -6(I\alpha + i\mathcal{R}\alpha)^2 & 4(-iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha)e^{-i\phi} & 0 & e^{-2i\phi} & 0 & 0 \\ -6(I\alpha - i\mathcal{R}\alpha)^2 & 0 & 4(iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha)e^{i\phi} & 0 & e^{2i\phi} & 0 \\ 6(I\alpha^2 + \mathcal{R}\alpha^2) & 2(iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha)e^{-i\phi} & 2(-iI\alpha + \mathcal{R}\alpha)e^{i\phi} & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## E(2) class of gravity theories

### General relativity

Let us now find the E(2) class of general relativity. We use the fact that we can write the vacuum field equations as  $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$ :

```

In[ ]:= RicciCD[-μ, -ν]
Perturbation[%];
ExpandPerturbation[%];
% /. RicciCD → Zero;
% // plawa;
SeparateMetric[%];
ToCanonical[%]
ToBasis[newpen][%];
TraceBasisDummy[%];
ComponentArray[%];
ToCanonical[%];
ric = ToValues[%]

```

Out[ ]:=

$$R[\nabla]_{\mu\nu}$$

Out[ ]:=

$$\frac{1}{2} g^{\alpha\beta} k_\mu k_\nu h^1_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} k^\alpha k_\nu h^1_{\mu\alpha} + \frac{1}{2} g_{\alpha\beta} k^\alpha k^\beta h^1_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} k^\alpha k_\mu h^1_{\nu\alpha}$$

Out[ ]:=

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}}, \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{m}\bar{\mathcal{m}}}, \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{m}}, \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{L}\bar{\mathcal{m}}} \right\}, \right. \\ \left. \left\{ 0, \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{m}}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\mathcal{L}\bar{\mathcal{m}}}, 0, 0 \right\} \right\}$$

Demanding that the above vanishes, we obtain the following conditions on the Newman-Penrose variables:

```

In[ ]:= Reduce[# == 0 & /@ Flatten[ric /. mettonp], nppot]

```

Out[ ]:=

$$\Psi_2 == 0 \ \&\& \ \Psi_3 == 0 \ \&\& \ \bar{\Psi}_3 == 0 \ \&\& \ \Phi_{22} == 0$$

We see that only the two tensor modes are allowed, while all other modes must vanish. The E(2) class is therefore  $N_2$ .

## Scalar-tensor gravity

We then calculate the E(2) class for scalar-tensor gravity. Let us first check that a plane wave satisfies the scalar field equation  $\nabla^\mu \nabla_\mu \psi = 0$ .

```
In[*]:= CD[μ][CD[-μ][scal[]]]
//. plawa;
ToBasis[newpen][%];
TraceBasisDummy[%];
ToValues[%]
```

```
Out[*]:=
 $\nabla^\mu \nabla_\mu \psi$ 
```

```
Out[*]:=
0
```

We continue with the metric field equation  $R_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \psi$ . We can use the fact that we already calculated the Ricci tensor.

```
In[*]:= CD[-μ][CD[-ν][scal[]]]
//. plawa;
ToBasis[newpen][%];
TraceBasisDummy[%];
ComponentArray[%];
ToCanonical[%];
scaleq = ToValues[%] - ric
```

```
Out[*]:=
 $\nabla_\nu \nabla_\mu \psi$ 
```

```
Out[*]:=
 $\left\{ \left\{ 0, -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\iota\iota}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\iota\iota}, -\omega^2 \psi - \omega^2 h^1_{m\bar{m}}, -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\iota m}, -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\iota \bar{m}} \right\}, \right.$ 
 $\left. \left\{ 0, -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\iota m}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, -\frac{1}{2} \omega^2 h^1_{\iota \bar{m}}, 0, 0 \right\} \right\}$ 
```

These are the conditions on the Newman-Penrose variables.

```
In[*]:= Reduce[# == 0 & @ Flatten[scaleq /. mettonp], nppot]
```

```
Out[*]:=
 $\Psi_2 == 0 \ \&\& \ \Psi_3 == 0 \ \&\& \ \bar{\Psi}_3 == 0 \ \&\& \ \Phi_{22} == \frac{\omega^2 \psi}{2}$ 
```

We see that now the breathing mode  $\Phi_{22}$  comes with the amplitude of the scalar wave, which may be non-vanishing. The E(2) class is therefore  $N_3$ .