Modified Rindler acceleration as a nonlinear electromagnetic effect

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Grumiller’s proposed model (Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 211303 (2010)) to describe gravity of a central object at large distances is considered within the context of nonlinear electrodynamics (NED). Pure electrical NED model is shown to generate the novel Rindler acceleration term in the metric which explains anomalous behaviours of test particles / satellites. Remarkably a pure magnetic model of NED yields horizontal velocity curves that may account for the missing dark matter. Weak and Strong Energy conditions are satisfied in such models of NED.

I. INTRODUCTION

In Newton’s theory of gravitation which reigned for centuries, mass constituted the principal source for its potential. With the advent of general relativity, different sources were unified under spacetime texture such that the overall effective force used to matter. Thus, gravity / geometry can easily be attributed to non-mass originated sources equally well due to the manifestation of mass - energy equivalence. As a particular example we recall the Reissner-Nordstrom (RN) geometry of general relativity in which mass and charge coexist in making the geometry. Assuming that the source has negligible mass versus a significant charge the entire geometry can be attributed to the charge alone. In performing this process one should be cautious that no physical energy conditions are violated. Recent observations suggest that there are dark matter / energy that is associated with non-observable sources. As a result our detectable / observable matter falls rather short to account for the accelerated expansion of our universe. Before suggesting proposals for new forces / matter it is more logical to exhaust every kind of physical sources that we are at least familiar so that we know how to cope with. To explain the hierarchy of forces at small distances and close the gap of discrepancy between gravity and other fields, for instance, the idea of higher dimensions / branes was proposed [1]. Although no branes have been identified so far theoretical explanation such as dilution (weakening) of gravity among branes in higher dimensions remains consistently intact. As the gravity is tamed at UV scales by virtue of higher dimensions at the IR scales, or long distances does everything go perfect? The recent proposal [2] that at large distances there is an additional parameter known as Rindler acceleration was rather unprecedented and the present Letter is about the source of such term. We recall that in the near horizon limit, i.e. $r = 2m + x$ for $|x|^2 \ll 1$, a Schwarzschild black hole leads to the standard Rindler acceleration. Such an extraneous term must be purely general relativistic coupled with physical sources which lacks a Newtonian counterpart. Even in the Einstein-Maxwell version of general relativity with spherical symmetry such a term did not arise. The long range fields, i.e. gravitation and electromagnetism, manifest their inverse square law character so that asymptotically the spacetime becomes flat. Different sources such as dilatons, nonlinear electromagnetic fields and others admit non asymptotically flat solutions at large spatial distances. The difficulty with the new Rindler acceleration is that it violates both the Newtonian and Maxwellian limits: for large distances ($r \rightarrow \infty$) it becomes even more significant. In Newtonian terms the potential that gives inverse force law modifies into $\phi(r) = -\frac{m}{r} + ar$, where $m$ is the central Newtonian mass and $a$ is the novel Rindler acceleration under question. Unless the central object is supermassive and $a$ is negligibly small it can be argued that for large $r$ the new term dominates over the mass term. Further, the Rindler acceleration is not a universal constant as observationally it shows slight variations from Sun-Pioneer pair ($\sim 10^{-61}$ natural unit of acceleration which is equivalent to $10^{-10}$ in physical units) to galaxy-Sun system ($\sim 10^{-62}$) and others. We recall that such a linear dependence of potential on distance is encountered in parallel plates endowed with a uniform electric field in linear Maxwell electromagnetism (i.e. $V_0 = E_0z$, $E_0 = \text{constant}$).

Gravity coupled with linear Maxwell electromagnetism in spherically symmetric geometry produces no such linear potential term either. For this reason we resort from the outset to nonlinear electrodynamics (NED) to generate the new acceleration term. Truly it yields the required expression, however, in addition it gives as a by product an extra constant term in the metric which can be interpreted as a global monopole $E_0 = \text{constant}$. This amounts to further modification of the Newtonian potential by $\phi(r) = k - \frac{m}{r} + ar$, with the global monopole term $k = \text{constant}$. Our formalism

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suggests that both the Rindler acceleration \((a)\) and global monopole \((k)\) constants depend on the nonlinear electric charge of the heavenly object under consideration. That is, neither one is a fundamental constant of nature as both are derived from the charge. Interestingly the monopole term plays the similar role of a cosmological constant, i.e. a uniform electric field in the presence of NED coupled gravity with nonisotropic difference. It is further shown that the monopole term is crucial for the weak and strong energy conditions to be satisfied. The spectrum of NED theories is very large and the problem is to find the proper Lagrangian that suits and serves for the purpose. Finally we observed that the Rindler acceleration doesn’t account for the constant tangential velocity of circular orbits in the presence of mysterious dark matter. For this reason we have further modified the Rindler term in the metric function by \(2ar \to 2ar_0\ln r\) (with \(a\) and \(r_0\) constant), which necessitates a new NED Lagrangian. For such a magnetic Lagrangian it is shown that the energy conditions are satisfied at the cost of a bounded universe. Further, the circular orbit around remote galaxies, has velocity \(v = \sqrt{\frac{a}{r}} + ar_0\) which yields a better estimate between Newton and Rindler acceleration models toward accounts of dark matter.

II. THE SOLUTIONS

A. Pure Electric case

Recently, Grumiller gave a metric to describe gravity of a central mass at large distances which attracted interest due to its cosmological implications \[2\]. The novelty in this model is the inclusion of a term interpreted as Rindler acceleration. We wish to show in this Letter that nonlinear electrodynamics (NED) is responsible for the generation of such a term. Our starting point is the action

\[
S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - 2\Lambda + \mathcal{L}(F) \right]
\]

in which \(R = \text{Ricci scalar}, \Lambda = \text{cosmological constant} \) and \(\mathcal{L}(F)\) is the Lagrangian for the NED. Our notation is such that \(F = F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}\) represents the Maxwell invariant with the choice of Lagrangian

\[
\mathcal{L}(F) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2\beta - \sqrt{F}}}
\]

Here \(\alpha > 0\) is the coupling constant and \(\beta > 0\) plays the role of the uniform background electric field as will be clarified in the sequel. Our model Lagrangian (2) can be employed with the choice \(\beta = 0\) as well. Note that \(F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu\) is the standard Maxwell field tensor and this Lagrangian will break the scale invariance, i.e. \(x \to \lambda x\), \(A_\mu \to \frac{1}{\lambda} A_\mu\), for \(\lambda = \text{constant}\). We consider a static, spherically symmetric (SSS) spacetime described by the line element

\[
ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{f(r)} + r^2 \left( d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 \right),
\]

with the electric field ansatz 2–form \(F = E(r) dt \wedge dr\). The nonlinear Maxwell equation \(d \left( \star F \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \star F} \right) = 0\), admits the electric field

\[
E(r) = E_0 - \xi r
\]

in which \(E_0 = \text{const.}(=\beta)\) and \(\xi = 2^{-5/4} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\beta}} = \text{const.}\). We note that the integration constant \(C\) is identified as the total charge \(Q\) of the central object which is obtained from the Gauss’s law \(\oint \star F \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \star F} = 4\pi Q\). The solution of Einstein-NED equations gives the following metric function

\[
f(r) = 1 + 2k - \frac{2m}{r} + 2ar - \frac{1}{3} \Lambda r^2,
\]

where \(k = -Q E_0 = \text{const.} < 0\), \(a = 2^{-5/4} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\beta}} Q = \text{const.}\) while \(m = \text{mass} \) and \(\Lambda\) is the cosmological constant, require no comments. As the expressions suggest \(\alpha\) and \(Q\) must have the same sign and the fact that the acceleration admits both signs has cosmological implications. If this metric is compared with Grumiller’s one, it can be easily seen that the Rindler’s acceleration constant is derived from the charge \(Q\). Beside this acceleration we have an additional constant \(k = QE_0\) which can be interpreted as a global monopole term \[3\]. The global monopole charge is identified as \(\eta = \pm \sqrt{\frac{Q E_0}{4\pi}}\) which gives rise to non-radial stresses. Naturally such a monopole charge modifies the Newtonian potential by \(\Phi(r) = k - \frac{m}{r}\), which violates asymptotic flatness. In case that \(Q \to 0\) the line element reduces to the
standard Schwarzschild-de Sitter, as it should be. The essential parameters of our model consist of $Q$, $E_0$, $m$ and $\Lambda$ (or $k$). With the choice $\beta = 0$ the uniform electric field $E_0$ will not exist any more. To what extent our model is physical? Satisfaction of the energy conditions are vitally important for a physically acceptable solution. Let us note that in the original Grumiller model unless $a < 0$ the energy conditions are violated. In the present case with the NED as source we wish to show that the energy conditions are satisfied. To illustrate this we explicitly present the corresponding energy momentum tensor as follows

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag} [-\rho, p_r, p_\theta, p_\phi] = \frac{2a}{r} \text{diag} \left[ 2 + \frac{k}{ar}, 2 + \frac{k}{ar}, 1, 1 \right].$$

The weak energy condition (WEC) requires that $\rho \geq 0$, and $\rho + p_i \geq 0$. For the strong energy condition (SEC), in addition to WEC, we must have $\rho + \sum_{i=1}^{3} p_i \geq 0$. These conditions are both satisfied provided that

$$2ar \leq |k|$$

for our choice of $E_0 > 0$, $Q > 0$ so that $k < 0$ and $a > 0$. This suggests that validity of the energy conditions confines the motion by $E_0$ and the Rindler acceleration $a$. The fact that $a$ is very small ($\approx 10^{-10} \frac{r^2}{a^3}$) makes $r$ from (7) still quite large. $E_0$ can be interpreted as a uniform background electric field filling all space which appears also in the Lagrangian (i.e. $E_0 = \beta$). This makes $E_0$ an indispensable parameter of the theory provided we stipulate the energy conditions. Once we set $E_0 = \beta = 0$, the nonlinear Lagrangian reduces to $\mathcal{L}(F) = \sqrt{\frac{\ell}{r}}$ with the solution for the electric field $E(r) = -\xi r$ ($\xi = \text{const.}$). However, this will violate the energy conditions and due to this fact, we are compelled to invoke a space filling uniform electric field $E_0$ as regulator, much like the concept of cosmological constant $\Lambda$. All galaxies must be considered immersed in such a background $E_0$ to regulate energy conditions.

The role of $E_0$ becomes even more transparent if we assume the central object to host a black hole. The horizon radius shows a steep rise versus $E_0$ and the Hawking temperature $T_H$ which depends also on the Rindler acceleration reaches saturation for increasing $E_0$. That is, no matter how $E_0$ rises, $T_H$ reaches a constant value above zero. From the thermodynamical point of view, $k = \frac{1}{2}$ acts as a point of phase transition. From physical standpoints the global monopole parameter, $|k| = QE_0$ may be chosen small enough, apt for perturbative treatment. This is not imperative however, since relaxation of this condition will naturally yield from the geodesics equation open, hyperbolic orbits admissible as well. Global monopoles are known to arise also in modified $f(R)$ theories [3].

The equation of motion for a charged test particle is given by

$$i^2 + V_{eff}(r) = \mathcal{E}^2$$

in which the 'dot' stands for derivative with respect to proper time and the effective potential reads

$$V_{eff}(r) = q_0 r \left( E_0 + \frac{\xi}{2} \right) \left[ 2\mathcal{E} - q_0 r \left( E_0 + \frac{\xi}{2} r \right) \right] + f(r) \left( 1 + \frac{\mathcal{E}^2}{r^2} \right).$$

Here $\mathcal{E}$ (= energy) and $\ell$ (= angular momentum) are the constants of motion while $q_0$ is the charge of the test particle. The simplest way to handle this potential analytically is to consider a neutral ($q_0 = 0$) particle at larger $r$ with $\Lambda = 0$. The geodesics equation simplifies to $i^2 + (1 + k + ar) \simeq \mathcal{E}^2$, which integrates to

$$r(\tau) = \mathcal{E}^2 - k - \frac{1}{a} - \frac{3}{2} a^{-1/3} (\tau - \tau_0)^{2/3}.$$

It is observed that in this model there is not only a maximum radius (i.e. Eq.(7)) but also a maximum proper time determined by $\mathcal{E}^2/a$ and $|k|/a$.

The null geodesics equation for $u(\phi) = \frac{1}{r}$ reads [4], for $\Lambda = 0$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\phi^2} + (1 - 2|k|) u = 3mu^2 - a$$

which upon scalings $\phi \to \sqrt{1 - 2|k|}\phi$, $m \to \frac{m}{1 - 2|k|}$ and $a \to \frac{a}{1 - 2|k|}$ the perturbative solution can be found. Employing $u = \frac{\sin \phi}{\xi}$, as the flat space solution with $R = \text{the minimum light distance}$, the total bending angle for the photon orbit [3] modifies into

$$2\psi_0 \approx \frac{4m}{R} \frac{1}{1 + 6ma} [1 + 2ma + 2|k|(1 + 6ma)]$$
B. Pure magnetic solution and modified Grumiller metric

In order to establish a pure magnetic solution of NED we choose our Lagrangian as

\[ \mathcal{L}(F) = \alpha \sqrt{F} \left( \beta - \frac{1}{4} \ln F \right) \]  

(13)

where \( \alpha > 0 \) is the coupling constant and \( \beta = 1 + \frac{1}{4} \ln 2 \). Note that these constants are distinct from the ones given in (2). The vector potential is \( A_\mu = \delta_\mu^0 P \cos \theta \) with \( P \) = magnetic constant so that \( F = F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} > 0 \). Solution of the Einstein-NED equations with the same SSS metric ansatz (3) will lead to the metric function (with \( \Lambda = 0 \))

\[ f(r) = 1 - \frac{2m}{r} + 2ar_0 \ln \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right), \]  

(14)

in which \( a = \frac{\alpha \sqrt{P}}{2 \sqrt{2}} > 0 \) and \( r_0 = \sqrt{P} \) are constants. It can be checked that the WEC and SEC are satisfied provided \( r < \frac{m}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \). Naturally, in this model the galaxies can’t run out infinity. The Newtonian potential in this model modifies as

\[ \Phi = -\frac{m}{r} + ar_0 \ln \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right) \]  

(15)

so that the attractive force \( \vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi \) takes the form

\[ \left| \vec{F} \right| = \frac{m}{r^2} + \frac{ar_0}{r}. \]  

(16)

For circular orbits since \( \left| \vec{F} \right| = \frac{v^2}{r} \) for a unit mass particle, this yields the velocity function for a unit test mass, as

\[ v = \sqrt{\frac{m}{r} + ar_0}. \]  

(17)

This differs from the Newtonian model \( (v = \sqrt{\frac{m}{r}}) \) and the new model proposed by Grumiller \( (\sqrt{\frac{m}{r}} + ar) \). Evidently, for \( r \to \infty \) our model has the advantage since \( v \to \text{const.} \), which is the case believed to be in the presence of dark matter. Fig. 1 displays the three cases openly with the chosen mass and density functions as described below shortly. No doubt the gap between our model and Newtonian one corresponds to the invisible dark matter.

Let’s consider a model for the mass distribution of a galaxy given by

\[ \rho = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + \exp \left( \frac{r-R}{b} \right)} \]  

(18)

in which \( \rho_0, R \) and \( b \) are real positive constants. The Fig. 1 is a plot of rotational velocity \( v(r) \) for three different models.

As a side remark, the problem can be considered from the Newtonian viewpoint. From the Newtonian potential (15) the centripetal force for an object in circular orbit of radius \( r \) is given by

\[ F_c = \frac{m}{r^2} + \frac{ar_0}{r}. \]  

(19)

or equivalently

\[ F_c = \frac{m_n}{r^2} + \frac{m_d}{r^2} \]  

(20)

in which \( m_n = m = \) the normal mass and \( m_d = ar_0 r = \) the dark mass. We assume a normal matter density \( \rho_n \) and a dark matter density \( \rho_d \), such that

\[ m_n = 4\pi \int_0^r \rho_n r^2 dr \]  

and

\[ m_d = 4\pi \int_0^r \rho_d r^2 dr. \]  

(21)
One easily finds $\rho_d = \frac{\alpha r_0^2}{4\pi\sqrt{\eta}}$ while $\rho_n$ is given by (18). Now, our aim is to see how the parameters should be adjusted in order to find $\Omega = \frac{m_d}{m_n} = \frac{23}{4.6}$, i.e. the experimentally recorded ratio. The parameter $\Omega$ is defined by

$$\Omega = \frac{\int_0^{r_0} \rho_d r^2 \, dr}{\int_0^{r_0} \rho_n r^2 \, dr}$$

(22)

in which it is assumed that beyond $r_0$ both matter and dark matter become insignificant. The latter equation yields

$$\int_0^{r_0} \frac{\rho_0}{1 + \exp \left( \frac{r - R}{b} \right)} r^2 \, dr = \frac{\alpha r_0^2}{4\pi\sqrt{\eta}}$$

(23)

In the zeroth order approximation, one considers a solid central object with a certain boundary at $r = R$ and a uniform mass distribution $\rho_0$ which implies ($b \to 0$)

$$\rho_0 \left( \frac{R^3}{3} \right) = \frac{\alpha r_0^2}{4\pi\sqrt{\eta}}$$

(24)

Herein $a = \frac{\sqrt{P}}{2\sqrt{2}}$ and $r_0 = \sqrt{P}$ and upon substitution it yields

$$\rho_0 \left( \frac{R^3}{3} \right) = \frac{\alpha P\sqrt{P}}{8\sqrt{2}e\pi\Omega}$$

(25)

which gives the relation between the radius of the central object $R$, the magnetic charge $P$ and coupling constant $\alpha$. The normal matter $m_n$ will be expressed in terms of charge ($P$) and ratio $\Omega(= \frac{23}{4.6})$ by

$$m_n = \frac{\alpha P\sqrt{P}}{2\sqrt{2}e\Omega}$$

(26)

III. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the idea of nonlinear electrodynamics (NED) popularized in 1930’s by Born and Infeld [7] to resolve singularities remains still attractive and find rooms of applications even in modern cosmology. Specifically, a pure electrical NED model serves to generate Rindler acceleration which was considered responsible for the effects of large distance gravity. Another (i.e. pure magnetic) NED model modifies the Rindler acceleration term from $\sim 2ar$ to $\sim 2ar_0\ln r$, which gives near horizontal velocity curves to conform observations. As shown (see Fig. 1), our curve lies in between Grumiller and Newton models. For this reason without resorting to yet unknown particles dark matter may emerge as a manifestation of NED. The models of NED we employ here have no counterpart in linear, more familiar Maxwell theory. Our models are derived in particular to satisfy the energy (Weak and Strong) conditions. As a pay-off in the pure electric case, for instance a global monopole field crops up. This may be considered as a background, space-filling uniform electric field to act as the background energy level. Unfortunately once this field is deleted our energy conditions will be violated. Finally, it will not be wrong to state that NED, which has rarely been appealing may encompass larger scopes in physics / cosmology than envisioned.

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Figure caption: A plot of rotational velocity $v(r)$ versus the radial distance for three different models.
This figure "figure1.jpg" is available in "jpg" format from:

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