Nonlocal Gravitomagnetism

Bahram Mashhoon 1,2,* and Friedrich W. Hehl 3

1 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211, USA
2 School of Astronomy, Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences (IPM), P.O. Box 19395-5531, Tehran, Iran
3 Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Cologne, 50923 Köln, Germany

* Correspondence: mashhoonb@missouri.edu

Received: 12 August 2019; Accepted: 4 September 2019; Published: 5 September 2019

Abstract: We briefly review the current status of nonlocal gravity (NLG), which is a classical nonlocal generalization of Einstein’s theory of gravitation based on a certain analogy with the nonlocal electrodynamics of media. Nonlocal gravity thus involves integro-differential field equations and a causal constitutive kernel that should ultimately be determined from observational data. We consider the stationary gravitational field of an isolated rotating astronomical source in the linear approximation of nonlocal gravity. In this weak-field and slow-motion approximation of NLG, we describe the gravitomagnetic field associated with the rotating source and compare our results with gravitoelectromagnetism (GEM) of the standard general relativity theory. Moreover, we briefly study the energy-momentum content of the GEM field in nonlocal gravity.

Keywords: Nonlocal gravity (NLG); gravitoelectromagnetism (GEM)

1. Introduction

The standard formulation of general relativity (GR) involves the extension of classical physics expressed in Minkowski spacetime, with metric $dS^2 = \eta_{\mu\nu} dX^\mu dX^\nu$, first to arbitrary curvilinear (“accelerated”) coordinates via the locality postulate and then to curved spacetime, with metric $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$, by means of Einstein’s principle of equivalence [1–3]. Here, $\eta_{\alpha\beta}$ is the Minkowski metric tensor given by diag\((-1, 1, 1, 1)\), Latin indices run from 1 to 3, while Greek indices run from 0 to 3. The theory is thus based on the Levi–Civita connection:

$$0 \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} (g_{\nu\alpha,\beta} + g_{\nu\beta,\alpha} - g_{\alpha\beta,\nu}).$$

(1)

This symmetric connection is torsion free, but has Riemannian curvature:

$$0 R^\alpha_{\mu\nu\beta} = \partial_\beta 0 \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\beta} - \partial_\nu 0 \Gamma^\alpha_{\beta\mu} + 0 \Gamma^\alpha_{\beta\gamma} 0 \Gamma^\gamma_{\nu\mu} - 0 \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\gamma} 0 \Gamma^\gamma_{\beta\mu}.$$  

(2)

A left superscript “0” will be employed throughout to designate all geometric quantities that are related to the Levi–Civita connection.

In the curved spacetime of general relativity, free test particles and light rays follow timelike and null geodesics, respectively. The correspondence with Newtonian gravitation is established via Einstein’s field equations [1]:

$$0 G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}, \quad 0 G_{\mu\nu} := 0 R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} 0 R,$$

(3)

where $0 G_{\mu\nu}$ is the Einstein tensor, $0 R_{\mu\nu} = 0 R^\alpha_{\mu\nu\alpha}$ is the Ricci tensor and $0 R = g_{\mu\nu} 0 R_{\mu\nu}$ is the scalar curvature. Moreover, $T_{\mu\nu}$ is the symmetric energy-momentum tensor of matter (and nongravitational...
Universe 2019, 5, 195 2 of 18

fields), \( \Lambda \) is the cosmological constant and \( \kappa := 8\pi G/c^4 \). In GR, the gravitational field is identified with the Riemannian curvature of spacetime; therefore, spacetime is flat when gravity is turned off and we then work within the framework of the special theory of relativity.

Einstein’s general relativity has significant observational support. Indeed, GR is at present in good agreement with solar system data as well as data from astronomical binary systems. The recent detection of gravitation radiation due to binary mergers lends further support to Einstein’s theory of gravitation. On the other hand, in the current standard model of cosmology, which assumes the spatial homogeneity and isotropy of the universe, the energy content of the universe consists of about 70% dark energy, about 25% dark matter and about 5% visible matter. Dark energy is a kind of repulsive energy that permeates the universe and not only counteracts the attraction of matter, but causes accelerated expansion of the universe. The nature and origin of dark energy are unknown, but it should have positive energy density and negative pressure. It is uniformly distributed throughout space and though it exists everywhere, it is extremely difficult to detect locally. A possible candidate for dark energy is provided by the cosmological constant \( \Lambda \). The existence of dark energy and dark matter indicates that we are almost completely ignorant about our universe. Most of the matter in the universe is currently thought to be in the form of certain elusive particles of dark matter that, despite much effort, have not been directly detected. The existence and properties of this dark matter have thus far been deduced only through its gravity. In modern astronomy, dark matter is needed to explain dynamics of galaxies, clusters of galaxies and structure formation in cosmology. However, it is possible that there is no dark matter at all, and the theory of gravitation needs to be modified on the scale of galaxies and beyond in order to take due account of what appears as dark matter in astronomy and cosmology. A suitably extended theory of gravitation could then account for the observational data without any need for dark matter. The present paper is about an attempt in this direction; that is, the nonlocal aspect of gravity in NLG simulates dark matter. The main purpose of this paper is to briefly present the main features of NLG theory and develop a useful linear perturbation scheme involving nonlocal gravitoelectromagnetism.

Einstein’s theory of gravitation can be alternatively formulated within the framework of teleparallelism. In this approach to gravitation, the fundamental fields are the 16 components of an arbitrary smooth orthonormal tetrad frame \( e_{\alpha}^\mu(x) \). The spacetime metric is then defined via the orthonormality condition:

\[
    g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} e_{\mu\hat{\alpha}}(x) e_{\nu\hat{\beta}}(x). \tag{4}
\]

Here, the \( \hat{\text{hatted}} \) indices (e.g., \( \hat{\alpha} \)) refer to anholonomic tetrad—that is, local Lorentz—indices, while ordinary indices (e.g., \( \alpha \)) refer to holonomic spacetime indices. For instance, in:

\[
    ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \eta_{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} dx^{\hat{\alpha}} dx^{\hat{\beta}}, \quad dx^\mu = e_{\mu\hat{\alpha}} dx^{\hat{\alpha}}, \quad dx^{\hat{\alpha}} = e_{\alpha\hat{\alpha}} dx^\alpha, \tag{5}
\]

the tetrad connects (holonomic) spacetime quantities to (anholonomic) local Lorentz quantities. A coordinate basis is holonomic, while a noncoordinate basis is anholonomic. For instance, given a coordinate system \( x^\mu \), four coordinate lines pass through each event and for each \( \mu = 0, 1, 2, 3 \), the 1-form \( dx^\mu \) is exact and hence integrable. On the other hand, for each \( \hat{\alpha} = \hat{0}, \hat{1}, \hat{2}, \hat{3} \), the 1-form \( dx^{\hat{\alpha}} \) in Equation (5) is in general not exact and hence nonintegrable. Holonomic systems are integrable, while anholonomic systems are nonintegrable. Holonomic and anholonomic indices are raised and lowered by means of \( g_{\mu\nu}(x) \) and \( \eta_{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} \), respectively. To change an anholonomic index of a tensor into a holonomic index or vice versa, we simply project the tensor onto the corresponding tetrad frame. We use units such that \( c = 1 \), unless specified otherwise.

The chosen tetrad frame is employed to define the Weitzenböck connection [4]:

\[
    \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu = e_{\mu\rho} \partial_\alpha e_{\beta\rho}. \tag{6}
\]
This nonsymmetric connection is curvature free, but has torsion. It follows from definition (6) that the
tetrad frame is covariantly constant:
\[ \nabla,v e_\mu^\hat{\alpha} = 0, \tag{7} \]
where \( \nabla \) refers to covariant differentiation with respect to the Weitzenböck connection. Equation (7)
implies that each leg of the tetrad field is parallel to itself throughout the manifold, i.e., for each \( \hat{\alpha} \),
Equation (7) is an expression of the parallel transport of the corresponding vector with respect to
connection (6). Thus, in this theory observers throughout spacetime have access to a global set of
parallel vector fields that constitute the components of the tetrad frame field. This circumstance is the
essence of teleparallelism; for example, two distant vectors can be considered parallel to each other if
they have the same components with respect to the local tetrad frames.

It follows from Equations (4) and (7) that \( \nabla_\gamma g_{\alpha\beta} = 0 \), so that the Weitzenböck connection is
compatible with the metric. Thus, in the framework under consideration here, we have one spacetime
metric and two metric-compatible connections. It is, therefore, possible to introduce the torsion tensor:
\[ C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha = \Gamma^\alpha_{\mu\nu} - \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\mu} = e^\hat{\alpha}_{\beta}(\partial_\mu e_\nu^\beta - \partial_\nu e_\mu^\beta), \tag{8} \]
and the contorsion tensor:
\[ K_{\mu\nu}^a = 0\Gamma^a_{\mu\nu} - \Gamma^a_{\nu\mu}, \tag{9} \]
which are linearly related. To see this, we note that \( \nabla_\gamma g_{\alpha\beta} = 0 \) implies:
\[ g_{\alpha\beta} = \Gamma^\alpha_{\gamma\beta} g_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma^\mu_{\gamma\beta} g_{\alpha\nu}, \tag{10} \]
which, via the Levi–Civita connection (1), leads to:
\[ K_{\mu\nu}^a = \frac{1}{2} g^{\alpha\beta}(C_{\beta\nu} + C_{\nu\mu} - C_{\mu\beta}). \tag{11} \]
The torsion tensor is antisymmetric in its first two indices by definition; however, the contorsion
tensor turns out to be antisymmetric in its last two indices. The torsion of the Weitzenböck connection
and the curvature of the Levi–Civita connection are complementary aspects of the gravitational field
within the framework of teleparallelism. Thus, it is natural to express Einstein’s field equations in
terms of the torsion tensor. The result is the teleparallel equivalent of general relativity, GR||, to which
we now turn.

1.1. GR||

It follows from Equations (9) and (11) that one can write Einstein’s field equations in terms of the
torsion tensor. To this end, one can prove after much algebra that the Einstein tensor is given by:
\[ ^0_{\mu\nu} = \frac{k}{\sqrt{-g}} \left[ e^\hat{\alpha}_{\beta} g^{\gamma\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\sigma} H_{\mu\nu}^{\gamma\beta} - \left( C_{\mu\rho}^{\sigma} H_{\nu\rho\sigma} - \frac{1}{4} g_{\mu\nu} C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} H_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \right) \right], \tag{12} \]
where we have introduced auxiliary torsion fields \( H_{\mu\nu\rho} \) and \( C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{a} \):
\[ H_{\mu\nu\rho} := \sqrt{-g} \frac{g^{a\rho}}{\sqrt{-g}} C_{\mu\nu}^{a} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{a} := C_{\alpha}^{a} g_{\beta\gamma} - C_{\beta}^{a} g_{\alpha\gamma} + K_{\alpha\beta\gamma}. \tag{13} \]
Here, \( g := \det(g_{\mu\nu}) \), \( \sqrt{-g} = \det(e^\hat{\alpha}_{\beta}) \) and \( C_{\mu} := C_{\mu a}^{a} = -C_{\mu}^{a a}. \) The Einstein
field equations can thus be written within the framework of teleparallelism as:
\[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\nu}} H_{\mu\nu}^{\hat{\alpha}} + \sqrt{-g} \frac{g^{a}}{k} C_{\mu}^{a} e_{\mu}^{\hat{\alpha}} = \sqrt{-g} \left( T_{\mu}^{\hat{\alpha}} + T_{\hat{\alpha}}^{\mu} \right). \tag{14} \]
Here, $\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}$ is the trace-free energy-momentum tensor of the gravitational field and is given by:

$$\kappa \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu} := C_{\mu\rho\sigma} e^{\rho\nu} - \frac{1}{4} g_{\mu\nu} C_{\rho\sigma \delta} e^{\rho\sigma\delta}. \quad (15)$$

The antisymmetry of $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha}$ in its first two indices can be used to show that the law of conservation of total energy-momentum tensor in GR, namely:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \left[ \sqrt{-g} \left( T_{\mu}^{\alpha} + T^{\beta}_{\alpha\mu} - \frac{\Lambda}{\kappa} e^\mu_{\alpha} \right) \right] = 0, \quad (16)$$

follows from the gravitational field equations.

Let us recall here that GR field equations can be derived from an action principle involving a gravitational Lagrangian given by:

$$L_g = \frac{c^3}{16\pi G} (0R - 2\Lambda). \quad (17)$$

On the other hand, we find:

$$0R = -\frac{1}{2} C^{\alpha\beta\gamma} e_{\alpha\beta\gamma} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\sigma} \left( \sqrt{-g} C^\sigma \right), \quad (18)$$

so that the corresponding Lagrangian for GR is given by:

$$L_g = -\frac{c^3}{32\pi G} (C^{\alpha\beta\gamma} e_{\alpha\beta\gamma} + 4\Lambda). \quad (19)$$

The special torsion invariant in Equations (18) and (19) can be expressed as a linear combination of the three independent algebraic invariants of the torsion tensor, namely:

$$C^{\alpha\beta\gamma} e_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \frac{1}{2} C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} C^{\alpha\beta\gamma} + C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} C^{\gamma\beta\alpha} - 2 C_{\alpha} C^{\alpha}. \quad (20)$$

1.2. **GR as the Gauge Theory of the Translations Group**

Fundamentally, teleparallelism and GR can only be understood in the framework of a gauge theory of gravitation [5]. Presently the strong and the electroweak interactions are described by means of gauge theories. For gravity, this framework can be used as well.

Consider first matter in a Minkowski space. The source of gravity in Newton’s theory is the mass density; within special relativity it should be the energy-momentum tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$ instead. For an isolated material system, energy-momentum is conserved. This is the result of the rigid (often called “global”) translation invariance of the action function of the material system under consideration.

A rigid invariance contrasts with the idea of field theory. Thus, in adopting the gauge doctrine, we postulate for the action function the invariance under local translations. This forces us to introduce 1+3 translational gauge potentials (nonholonomic frames) $e_{\mu}^\alpha$ thereby deforming the Minkowski space $M_4$ to a Weitzenböck space $W_4$. Details of this procedure may be found in [6].

In $W_4$, the Lorentz rotations are not gauged, i.e., the action is still invariant under rigid Lorentz rotations, exactly like in $M_4$. Accordingly, the $W_4$ connection $\Gamma^\beta_{\mu\alpha}$ is still flat:

$$R^\alpha_{\beta\mu\nu} := 2 \left( \partial_{[\mu} \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu]\beta] + \Gamma^\alpha_{[\mu|\gamma|} \Gamma^\gamma_{|\nu]\beta} \right) = 0. \quad (21)$$
This guarantees that in a $W_4$ the parallel transport is still integrable. Accordingly, as in $M_4$, we can choose all over $W_4$ a suitable frame such that the connection vanishes everywhere:

$$\Gamma^\beta_{\mu\lambda} = 0 \quad \text{(in a suitable frame)}. \quad (22)$$

Instead of the curvature, $W_4$ carries a translational field strength torsion which, in analogy to electrodynamics, is represented by the curl of the translational potential $e_{\mu}{}^\lambda$:

$$T_{\mu
u}{}^\lambda := 2\nabla_{[\mu} e_{\nu]}{}^\lambda = 2 \left( \partial_{[\mu} e_{\nu]}{}^\lambda + \Gamma^\beta_{[\mu|\beta]} e_{\nu]}{}^\beta \right). \quad (23)$$

In the teleparallel frame of Equation (22), we have for the torsion

$$T_{\mu
u}{}^\lambda = C_{\mu
u}{}^\lambda, \quad \text{see Equation (8)},$$

where $C_{\mu
u}{}^\lambda$ is the object of anholonomity of Schouten [7]. The torsion has three irreducible pieces $(1)T_{\mu
u}{}^\lambda$, for $I = 1, 2, 3$. With the torsion vector $T_{\mu} := -T_{\mu
u}{}^\nu$, we have:

$$(1)T_{\mu
u} := T_{\mu
u} - (2)T_{\mu\nu p} - (3)T_{\mu
u p}, \quad (2)T_{\mu
u p} := -\frac{2}{3} T_{[\mu, S|\nu]} p, \quad (3)T_{\mu
u p} := T_{[\mu p]} p. \quad (24)$$

So far we reminded ourselves of the kinematics of a translational gauge theory (TG). With the gauge Lagrangian $L_{TG} = L_{TG}(\partial e, e, \Gamma, g)$, we can address the dynamics by defining the gravitational translational field momentum (or translation excitation):

$$H^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda := -\frac{\partial L_{TG}}{\partial T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda}. \quad (25)$$

Should we investigate a physical system which has no Lagrangian—in the case of irreversibility, e.g.,—the excitation $H^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda$ still makes physical sense, as we know, e.g., from electrodynamics and the inhomogeneous Maxwell equation.

The general quadratic TG Lagrangian carries three independent pieces:

$$L_{TG} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \left( a_1 (1)T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda (1)T_{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda + a_2 (2)T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda (2)T_{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda + a_3 (3)T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda (3)T_{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda \right). \quad (26)$$

To the Lagrangian (26) we can add a Lagrange multiplier term for enforcing the teleparallel constraint, see [6]. It turns out that we cannot allow spinning matter (other than as test particles) in such a teleparallel space. Accordingly, we must decree, see page 52 of [6], that only scalar and electromagnetic matter be allowed in TG, since they do not carry dynamical spin and have, consequently, symmetric energy-momentum tensors.

The translational excitation of Lagrangian (26) reads:

$$H^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda = -\sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{8}} \left( a_1 (1)T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda (1)T_{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda + a_2 (2)T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda (2)T_{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda + a_3 (3)T^{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda (3)T_{\mu\nu}{}^\lambda \right). \quad (27)$$

In a teleparallelism theory the three-parametric rigidly Lorentz invariant Lagrangian is a totally acceptable choice. It corresponds to a gauge theory of the translation group. However, as it so happens, among these three-parameter Lagrangians, up to an overall constant, there is only one Lagrangian that is locally Lorentz invariant, see Cho [8]. This theory, which we abbreviate by GR$_{||}$, is, for scalar and electromagnetic matter, equivalent to GR. The local Lorentz invariance is imposed from the outside, it is not necessary in a translational gauge theory. However, it shows that GR can be really understood as a specific translational gauge theory. A Hilbert-Einstein Lagrangian is equivalent to a definite torsion square Lagrangian in the teleparallel limit. This is a big step forward in understanding GR. The constants for GR$_{||}$ are found to be, see [9]:

$$a_1 = -1, \quad a_2 = 2, \quad a_3 = \frac{1}{2}. \quad (28)$$
This set of constants is called the Einstein choice. Lagrangian (26), together with Equation (28), and the attached field momentum (27) were the starting point for a classical nonlocal theory of gravity.

1.3. Nonlocal Gravity

A locality assumption runs through the standard theories of special and general relativity [2,3]. For instance, to render an accelerated system in Minkowski spacetime relativistic, Lorentz transformations are applied in a pointwise manner all along the world line of the accelerated system. An accelerated observer is thus assumed to be physically identical with a hypothetical inertial observer that shares the same state, namely position and velocity. The locality hypothesis originates from the Newtonian mechanics of classical point particles and its domain of validity is determined by the extent to which physical phenomena could be reduced to pointlike coincidences. However, wave phenomena are generally nonlocal by the Huygens principle. Moreover, Bohr and Rosenfeld have shown that the electromagnetic field measurement requires a certain average over a region of spacetime [10,11]. To go beyond the locality assumption, one must include an average over the past world line of the accelerated observer. In this way, a nonlocal special relativity theory has been developed [12,13].

Can nonlocal special relativity be extended to include the gravitational interaction by means of Einstein’s principle of equivalence? Einstein’s principle is extremely local, however, and this approach encounters severe difficulties and has been abandoned. Instead, we use Einstein’s fundamental insight regarding the connection between inertia and gravitation as a guiding principle and develop nonlocal general relativity patterned after the nonlocal electrodynamics of media. To this end, we exploit the formal analogy between GR and electrodynamics and introduce an average of the gravitational field into the field equations via a causal constitutive kernel [14–16]. In nonlocal gravity, the gravitational field is local, but satisfies partial integro-differential field equations.

In nonlocal gravity, as in the electrodynamics of media, we retain the gravitational field equations (14), but change the local constitutive relation (13) to:

\[ H_{\mu\nu\rho} = \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{\kappa} \left( \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} + N_{\mu\nu\rho} \right), \]  

where the new tensor \( N_{\mu\nu\rho} \) involves a linear average of the torsion tensor over past events. More specifically, we assume that:

\[ N_{\mu\nu\rho} = -\int \Omega_{\mu\rho'} \Omega_{\nu\rho'} K(x, x') X_{\mu\nu\rho'}(x') \sqrt{-g(x')} \, d^4 x', \]  

where \( \Omega(x, x') \) is Synge's world function [17], \( K \) is the scalar causal kernel of the nonlocal theory and \( X_{\mu\nu\rho}(x) \) is a tensor that is antisymmetric in its first two indices and is given by:

\[ X_{\mu\nu\rho} = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} + p \left( \tilde{\epsilon}_\mu \delta_{\nu\rho} - \tilde{\epsilon}_\nu \delta_{\mu\rho} \right). \]  

Here, \( p \neq 0 \) is a constant dimensionless parameter and \( \tilde{\epsilon}_\mu \) is the torsion pseudovector defined via the Levi–Civita tensor \( E_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \) by:

\[ \tilde{\epsilon}_\mu := \frac{1}{3!} C^{a\beta\gamma\delta} E_{a\beta\gamma\delta}. \]  

Finally, the gravitational field equation of nonlocal gravity (NLG) is given by:

\[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\xi} \left( \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{\kappa} \left( \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} + N_{\mu\nu\rho} \right) \right) + \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{\kappa} \Lambda e_{\mu}^\mu = \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{\kappa} \left( T_{\mu}^\mu + T_{\delta}^\delta \right), \]  

where the energy-momentum tensor of the gravitational field, \( T_{\mu\nu} \), is now given by:

\[ T_{\mu\nu} = \Pi_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{\kappa} \left( C_{\mu\rho\sigma} N_{\rho\sigma} - \frac{1}{4} \delta_{\mu\nu} C_{\delta\rho\sigma} N_{\delta\rho\sigma} \right). \]
The total energy-momentum conservation law then takes the form:

$$
\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \left[ \sqrt{-g} \left( T^{\mu}_{\alpha} + T^{\alpha}_{\mu} - \frac{\Lambda}{k} e^\mu_{\hat{\alpha}} \right) \right] = 0 \, .
$$

(35)

No exact nontrivial solution of the nonlocal field equation (33) is known. In this connection, the main source of difficulty appears to be the complicated relation that introduces nonlocality into the theory, namely Equation (30). In a recent paper [18], a simpler form of Equation (30) has been suggested, where the bitensor $\Omega_{\nu \mu'}$ is replaced by the parallel propagator $-g_{\nu \mu'}$. It remains to determine whether this simplification could help in generating exact nontrivial solutions of NLG.

The arbitrary tetrad frame we adopted to develop GR$||$ could be any smooth tetrad frame field in spacetime. At each event, any two tetrad frame fields are related by an element of the local Lorentz group. This circumstance agrees with the invariance of Einstein’s GR under the local Lorentz group, since Einstein’s theory ultimately depends only upon the metric tensor $g_{\mu \nu}$. The introduction of nonlocality into the theory may remove this pointwise 6-fold degeneracy of GR$||$. However, as expected, NLG remains invariant under the global Lorentz group.

2. Nonlocal GEM

We are interested in the stationary gravitational field of a rotating astronomical body, which is assumed to be confined to a compact region of space. We work in the linear approximation of nonlocal gravity, since the gravitational field is assumed to be weak. In this regime, a certain analogy with classical electrodynamics [19] turns out to be fruitful. Indeed, in linearized GR, the framework of gravitoelectromagnetism (GEM) has proved rather useful in describing and interpreting the gravitational effects of rotating masses. It is, therefore, interesting to develop this method in NLG. A preliminary account is already contained in [16] and will be further developed in this paper.

2.1. Linearized NLG

In the weak-field regime, we can write the chosen tetrad frame field in the form:

$$
e^\mu_{\hat{\alpha}} = \delta^\mu_{\alpha} - \psi^\mu_{\alpha} \, , \quad e^\mu_{\hat{\alpha}} = \delta^\alpha_{\mu} + \psi^\alpha_{\mu} ,
$$

(36)

where $\psi_{\mu \nu}(x)$ is the first-order perturbation away from a background global inertial reference frame in Minkowski spacetime such that:

$$
e^\mu_{\hat{\alpha}} e^\nu_{\hat{\beta}} = \delta^\beta_{\nu} .
$$

(37)

In this linear approximation scheme, the distinction between spacetime and tetrad indices disappears and it follows from Equation (4) that $g_{\mu \nu} = \eta_{\mu \nu} + \psi_{\mu \nu} + \psi_{\nu \mu}$. Therefore, we can write:

$$
\psi_{\mu \nu} = \psi_{(\mu \nu)} + \psi_{[\mu \nu]} , \quad g_{\mu \nu} = \eta_{\mu \nu} + h_{\mu \nu} , \quad h_{\mu \nu} := 2 \psi_{(\mu \nu)} , \quad \psi_{\mu \nu} := 2 \psi_{[\mu \nu]} .
$$

(38)

The gravitational perturbation $\psi_{\mu \nu}$ is thus comprised of a symmetric metric part $\frac{1}{2} h_{\mu \nu}$ and an antisymmetric tetrad part $\frac{1}{2} \phi_{\mu \nu}$. In connection with the metric part, it is useful to introduce, as in GR, the trace-reversed potentials:

$$
\bar{h}_{\mu \nu} = h_{\mu \nu} - \frac{1}{2} h_{\mu \nu} h , \quad h := \eta_{\mu \nu} h^{\mu \nu} , \quad \bar{h} = -h .
$$

(39)

In the teleparallel approach to gravity, the 16 gravitational potentials consist of ten metric potentials familiar from GR and six local Lorentz potentials connected with the local choice of the tetrad system involving three rotations and three boosts. Gravitational potentials are gauge dependent. Under an
Universe 2019, 5, 195

As expected, the linearized gravitational field as well as the corresponding field equations remain invariant under gauge transformations. For instance, it is straightforward to show that the torsion tensor:

\[ C_{\mu \sigma \nu} = \partial_{\mu} \psi_{\nu \sigma} - \partial_{\sigma} \psi_{\mu \nu} \tag{41} \]

and the auxiliary torsion tensor:

\[ \mathcal{C}_{\mu \sigma \nu} = -\overline{h}_{\nu [\mu, \sigma]} - \eta_{\nu \rho} \overline{h}_{\rho [\mu, \sigma]} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{\phi}_{\rho [\nu, \sigma]} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\rho \sigma} \overline{h}_{\rho \nu}, \tag{42} \]

do not change under a gauge transformation. To obtain the field equations of linearized NLG, we set \( \Lambda = 0 \) and note that Equation (33) reduces in the linear regime to:

\[ \partial_{\sigma} \left( C_{\mu \sigma \nu} + N_{\mu \sigma \nu} \right) = \kappa T_{\mu \nu}. \tag{43} \]

Here, \( T_{\mu \nu}, T^{\mu \nu}, \mu = 0 \), is the conserved symmetric energy-momentum tensor of matter. We can write:

\[ \partial_{\sigma} \mathcal{C}_{\mu \sigma \nu} = 0 G_{\mu \nu} = -\frac{1}{2} \Box \overline{h}_{\mu \nu} + \overline{R}_{(\mu, \nu)\rho} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\mu \nu} \overline{R}_{\rho \sigma}, \tag{44} \]

where \( \Box := \eta^{\alpha \beta} \partial_{\alpha} \partial_{\beta} \). Furthermore:

\[ N_{\mu \sigma \nu}(x) = \int K(x, y) X_{\mu \sigma \nu}(y) \, d^{4}y, \tag{45} \]

where \( X_{\mu \nu \rho} \) is given by Equation (31) and \( K(x, y) \) reduces to a universal convolution kernel \( K(x - y) \) in the linear approximation [16]. The linearized field equations of NLG thus take the GR form:

\[ 0 G_{\mu \nu} + \partial_{\sigma} N_{\mu \sigma \nu} = \kappa T_{\mu \nu}. \tag{46} \]

For further discussion, see [20–22] and the references cited therein.

2.2. Kernel of Linearized NLG

A detailed discussion of the causal universal convolution kernel \( K(x - y) \) and its reciprocal \( R(x - y) \) is contained in [16]. Here, we simply summarize their main properties.

We assume that the convolution kernels \( K \) and \( R \) are \( L^{1} \) and \( L^{2} \) functions on spacetime. They are reciprocal of each other and satisfy the reciprocity integral equation:

\[ K(x - y) + R(x - y) + \int K(x - z) R(z - y) \, d^{4}z = 0. \tag{47} \]

If \( \hat{K}(\xi) \) and \( \hat{R}(\xi) \) are Fourier integral transforms of \( K(x) \) and \( R(x) \), respectively, then, \( (1 + \hat{K})(1 + \hat{R}) = 1 \). Thus, given \( \hat{R}(\xi) \), one can in principle determine \( K \) from:

\[ \hat{K}(\xi) = -\frac{\hat{R}(\xi)}{1 + \hat{R}(\xi)}, \tag{48} \]

provided \( 1 + \hat{R}(\xi) \neq 0 \).
We assume that the reciprocal kernel is given by:

\[ R(x - y) = \nu e^{-\nu (x^0 - y^0 - |x - y|)} \Theta (x^0 - y^0 - |x - y|) q(x - y), \tag{49} \]

where \( \nu^{-1} \) is a galactic length scale, \( \Theta \) is the Heaviside unit step function such that \( \Theta(t) = 0 \) for \( t < 0 \) and \( \Theta(t) = 1 \) for \( t \geq 0 \). Moreover, the Newtonian reciprocal kernel \( q(x - y) \) has been determined based on the observational data regarding the rotation curves of spiral galaxies. Two possible forms for \( q \) are given by:

\[ q_1 = \frac{1}{4\pi \lambda_0} \frac{1 + \mu_0 (a_0 + r)}{r(a_0 + r)} e^{-\mu_0 r}, \tag{50} \]

and:

\[ q_2 = \frac{1}{4\pi \lambda_0} \frac{1 + \mu_0 (a_0 + r)}{(a_0 + r)^2} e^{-\mu_0 r}, \tag{51} \]

where \( r = |x - y| \) and \( \lambda_0, \mu_0 \) and \( a_0 \) are constant parameters such that \( \lambda_0 \), the fundamental length scale of NLG, is expected to be \( \approx 3 \) kpc and \( \mu_0^{-1} \approx 17 \) kpc \cite{23}. The short-distance nonlocality parameter \( a_0 \) is expected to be much smaller than \( \lambda_0 \). From the solar system data for the orbit of Saturn, one expects approximately that \( a_0 \) is greater than or about the size of the solar system \cite{24–26}.

Let us now return to Equation (49) for the reciprocal kernel and note that:

\[ \int \nu e^{-\nu (x^0 - y^0 - |x - y|)} \Theta (x^0 - y^0 - |x - y|) dy^0 = 1. \tag{52} \]

This has an important implication for gravitational fields that are independent of time. For instance, let \( Z(y) \) be a smooth function that is independent of \( y^0 \), then:

\[ \int R(x - y) Z(y) \, d^4 y = \int q(x - y) Z(y) \, d^3 y. \tag{53} \]

It follows from the reciprocity relation that:

\[ \int K(x - y) Z(y) \, d^4 y = \int \chi(x - y) Z(y) \, d^3 y, \tag{54} \]

where \( \chi \) here is the Newtonian kernel reciprocal to \( q \); that is:

\[ \chi(x - y) + q(x - y) + \int \chi(x - z) q(z - y) \, d^3 z = 0. \tag{55} \]

### 2.3. GEM in Linearized NLG

Consider the stationary gravitational field of a rotating astronomical source in the linear approximation. Equation (45) then takes the form:

\[ N_{\mu \nu}^\sigma(x) = \int K(x - y) X_{\mu \nu}^\sigma(y) \, d^4 y = \int \chi(x - y) X_{\mu \nu}^\sigma(y) \, d^3 y. \tag{56} \]

Next, from \( \partial \chi / \partial x^i = -\partial \chi / \partial y^i \) and Gauss’s theorem, we find:

\[ \partial^\nu N_{\mu \nu}^\sigma = \int \chi(x - y) \partial^\nu X_{\mu \nu}^i(y) \, d^3 y. \tag{57} \]

It proves convenient to impose the gauge conditions:

\[ R_{\mu \nu}^\sigma = 0, \quad \phi_{\mu \nu} = 0, \tag{58} \]
which correspond to the transverse gauge condition in the metric part and the vanishing of the local Lorentz potentials. The gauge is not quite fixed, however, since a gauge transformation with \( \epsilon_\mu = \partial_\mu \zeta \) and \( \Box \zeta = 0 \) is still possible.

With the imposition of gauge condition (58), the torsion pseudovector vanishes, \( \tilde{C}^{\mu} = 0 \), by Equations (32) and (41), then, the gravitational field equations of linearized NLG for a stationary source take the form:

\[
0 G_{\mu\nu}(x) + \int \chi(x-y) 0 G_{\mu\nu}(y) \, d^3 y = \kappa T_{\mu\nu},
\]

since \( X^\mu\nu = \epsilon^\mu\nu \) and \( \partial_\mu \epsilon^\mu\nu = 0 G_{\mu\nu} \). Equation (44) implies that with the transverse gauge condition, we have \( \Box \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = -2 G_{\mu\nu} \). It then follows from the temporal independence of gravitational potentials and the reciprocity relation that:

\[
\nabla^2 \bar{h}_{\mu\nu}(x) = -2 \kappa [T_{\mu\nu}(x) + \int q(x-y) T_{\mu\nu}(y) \, d^3 y].
\]

We assume that the source consists of slowly moving matter (\( |v| \ll c \)) of density \( \rho \), pressure \( P \) and matter current \( j = \rho \, v \). The matter energy-momentum tensor can thus be written as \( T_{00} = \rho c^2 \), \( T_{0i} = -c j_i \) and \( T_{ij} \sim \rho v_iv_j + P \delta_{ij} \). The corresponding gravitational potentials are \( \bar{h}_{00} = -4 \Phi/c^2 \), \( \bar{h}_{0i} = -2A_i/c^2 \) and \( \bar{h}_{ij} = O(c^{-4}) \). In the gravitational potentials, we neglect all terms of \( O(c^{-4}) \). The static gravitoelectric and gravitomagnetic potentials are thus given by:

\[
\nabla^2 \Phi(x) = 4 \pi G [\rho(x) + \rho_D(x)], \quad \rho_D(x) = \int q(x-y) \rho(y) \, d^3 y
\]

and:

\[
\nabla^2 \mathbf{A}(x) = -\frac{8 \pi G}{c} \left[ j(x) + j_D(x) \right], \quad j_D(x) = \int q(x-y) j(y) \, d^3 y
\]
respectively. Here, \( \rho_D(x) \) and \( j_D(x) \) are the effective dark matter density and current, respectively. The transverse gauge condition requires that \( \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0 \). On the other hand, \( \nabla \cdot j = 0 \) follows from the energy-momentum conservation law. It follows that the dark matter current is conserved as well; that is, \( \nabla \cdot j_D = 0 \).

Let us next introduce the GEM fields \( \mathbf{E}_g = \nabla \Phi \) and \( \mathbf{B}_g = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \) such that:

\[
\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_g = 4 \pi G (\rho + \rho_D), \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{E}_g = 0,
\]

\[
\nabla \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_g \right) = 0, \quad \nabla \times \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_g \right) = \frac{4 \pi G}{c} (j + j_D).
\]

We remark in passing that our GEM conventions are in conformity with the gravitational Larmor theorem [27].

The corresponding GEM metric takes the form:

\[
ds^2 = -c^2 \left( 1 + 2 \frac{\Phi}{c^2} \right) \, dt^2 - \frac{4}{c} (\mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{x}) \, dt + \left( 1 - 2 \frac{\Phi}{c^2} \right) \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j,
\]

whose geodesics can be employed to investigate the motion of test particles and null rays in nonlocal GEM. It is possible to show, for instance, the existence of the gravitational analog of the Lorentz force law [27]. We note that \( \Phi(x) \) is the gravitoelectric potential of nonlocal gravity in the Newtonian regime and has been investigated in some detail [16]; therefore, we concentrate here first on the gravitomagnetic vector potential \( \mathbf{A}(x) = O(c^{-1}) \).

It is interesting to compare nonlocal GEM with the standard GR treatment [27,28]. In NLG, the steady-state assumption is rather necessary and leads to great simplification. Thus, topics such as time-varying gravitomagnetism or gravitational induction that are standard in the GR treatment are beyond the reach of nonlocal GEM. Furthermore, the steady-state requirement limits any further gauge freedom; however, it is possible to shift the magnitude of the gravitoelectric potential by a constant in
metric (65). To this end, let us recall that the remaining gauge freedom is in the form $\epsilon_\mu = \partial_\mu \zeta$, where $\Box \zeta = 0$. With $\zeta = -\beta (3t^2 + |x|^2)/6$, metric (65) changes to:

$$ds^2 = -(1 + 2 \Phi + 2 \beta) dt^2 - 4 (A \cdot dx) dt + \left(1 - 2 \Phi - \frac{2}{3} \beta\right) \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j,$$

where $\beta$ is a constant parameter.

### 3. Gravitomagnetism in Nonlocal GEM

In Equation (62), the gravitomagnetic vector potential depends on the choice of the reciprocal kernel $q$. To indicate which Newtonian reciprocal kernel is under consideration, we introduce a parameter $\delta$ such that $\delta = 1$ for $q_1$ and $\delta = 2$ for $q_2$. Let us write the solution of Equation (62) in the form:

$$\delta A(x) = \frac{2 \mathcal{G}}{c} \int \delta \Phi(x - y) j(y) d^3 y.$$  

Using Equation (62) and the explicit form of the Newtonian reciprocal kernels (50) and (51), we find:

$$\delta \Phi(r) = \frac{1}{r} \left[1 + a_0 \delta N(\mu_0 r)\right],$$

where $r = |r|$, $a_0 := 2/(\lambda_0 \mu_0) \approx 11$ and $\delta N$ is given by:

$$\delta N(u) = 1 - e^{-u} + \frac{\delta}{2} \xi e^{\delta} [E_1(\xi + u) - E_1(\xi)] + \frac{1}{2} u E_1(\xi + u).$$

Here, $E_1$ is the exponential integral function given by:

$$E_1(x) := \int_x^\infty \frac{e^{-t}}{t} dt,$$

so that for $x : 0 \to \infty$, $E_1(x)$ is a positive monotonically decreasing function that diverges as $-\ln x$ near $x = 0$ and falls off exponentially as $x \to \infty$. Moreover, we have introduced a dimensionless quantity $\xi$ such that $\xi := a_0 \mu_0 < 1$. For the exterior of the Earth, we assume that $r$ is less an astronomical unit and $r/a_0$ is rather small compared to unity as $a_0$ is about the size of the solar system. For $r \ll a_0$, we have $\mu_0 r \ll \zeta$; then, the Taylor expansion of $E_1(\xi + \mu_0 r)$ about $E_1(\xi)$ and repeated differentiation of Equation (70) result in:

$$e^{\xi} E_1(\xi + \mu_0 r) - e^{\xi} E_1(\xi) = \frac{r}{a_0} \frac{1}{2} (1 + \xi) \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} + O \left(\frac{r^3}{a_0^3}\right).$$

Putting these results together and neglecting terms of $O \left(\frac{r^3}{a_0^3}\right)$, we find:

$$\delta \Phi(x - y) = \frac{1}{|x - y|} + \frac{1}{\lambda_0} \left[2 - \delta + e^{\xi} E_1(\xi)\right] - \frac{1 + \xi}{2 \lambda_0 a_0} (2 - \delta) |x - y|.$$  

Assuming $|x| > |y|$, which is appropriate for the exterior of the source, and expanding $|x - y|$ to first order in $|y|/|x|$, we get:

$$\int \frac{j(y)}{|x - y|} d^3 y \approx \frac{1}{|x|} \int j(y) d^3 y + \frac{1}{|x|^3} \int (x \cdot y) j(y) d^3 y$$

and:

$$\int |x - y| j(y) d^3 y \approx |x| \int j(y) d^3 y - \frac{1}{|x|} \int (x \cdot y) j(y) d^3 y.$$
Let the compact gravitational source reside in the interior of a finite closed spatial domain $D$ that completely surrounds the source. This means that $j$ vanishes on the surface of $D$ and beyond. Then, the conservation of matter current implies:

$$\int_D f(y) (x \cdot y) \nabla_y \cdot j(y) \, d^3y = 0,$$

(75)

where $f(y)$ is a smooth function. Applying Gauss’s theorem and setting the integral on $\partial D$ equal to zero, we get:

$$\int_D \nabla_y [f(y) (x \cdot y)] \cdot j(y) \, d^3y = 0.$$

(76)

For $f(y) = 1$ and $f(y) = y^i$, we find the following relations:

$$\int_D j(y) \, d^3y = 0, \quad \int_D (x \cdot y) j^i(y) \, d^3y = -\int_D y^i x \cdot j(y) \, d^3y,$$

(77)

respectively. Let:

$$\int_D y \times j(y) \, d^3y = J,$$

(78)

be the total proper angular momentum of the gravitational source. Then, it is straightforward to show using Equation (77) that:

$$\int_D (x \cdot y) j(y) \, d^3y = \frac{1}{2} J \times x.$$

(79)

It then follows from these results that the gravitomagnetic vector potential is given by:

$$\delta A(x) = \frac{G}{c^2} J \times x \left[ 1 + (2 - \delta) \frac{|x|^2}{L_N^2} \right],$$

(80)

where the relevant nonlocality length scale $L_N$ is given by:

$$L_N = \left( \frac{2 \lambda_0 a_0}{1 + \varsigma} \right)^{1/2}.\tag{81}$$

The nonlocal contribution to $A$ at the level of approximation under consideration is nonzero for $q_1$ but vanishes for $q_2$. The length scale $L_N \gtrsim 1$ pc, so that the nonlocal contribution to $A$ in the exterior of the Earth is relatively quite small and less than about $10^{-10}$ of the standard GR value.

Finally, the gravitomagnetic field can be calculated from Equation (80) and the result is:

$$\delta B_8(x) = \frac{G}{c^3} \frac{3 (J \cdot x) x - J |x|^2}{|x|^3} + \frac{G}{c^2} \left( \frac{2 - \delta}{L_N^2} \right) \frac{(J \cdot x) x + J |x|^2}{|x|^3}.$$

(82)

The gravitomagnetic field of the Earth has been directly measured via the GP-B experiment and the GR prediction has been verified to about 19% [29]. The nonlocal contribution to the gravitomagnetic field of the Earth is at most ten orders of magnitude smaller than the GR value and is thus beyond current measurement capabilities for the foreseeable future. A similar estimate holds for nonlocal gravitomagnetic effects in the motion of the Moon. In connection with the lunar laser ranging experiment, we note that the main relativistic effects in the motion of the Moon are due to the gravitational field of the Sun and have been calculated in [30,31]. The Earth-Moon system with its orbital angular momentum acts as an extended gyroscope in the gravitomagnetic field of the Sun. The nonlocal modification of this field is given by Equation (82) and the corresponding nonlocal gravitomagnetic effects in the motion of the Moon are then about ten orders of magnitude smaller than the GR predictions as well. Another consequence of the existence of the gravitomagnetic field is the Lense–Thirring effect, see [32–34] and the references cited therein.
3.1. Nonlocal Contributions to the Metric

The spacetime metric (66) in our nonlocal GEM contains gravitoelectric and gravitomagnetic potentials. The latter is given by Equation (80). It is, therefore, necessary to find the corresponding gravitoelectric potential \( \delta \Phi (x) \), which is given by:

\[
\delta \Phi (x) = -G \int \delta A(x - y) \rho (y) d^3 y.
\] (83)

To simplify matters, we assume that the gravitational source has a spherically symmetric matter distribution. This means that \( \rho (y) = \rho (|y|) \); then, we go through essentially the same steps as in Equations (68)–(74), except that:

\[
\int (x \cdot y) \rho (|y|) d^3 y = 0,
\] (84)
as a consequence of spherical symmetry for the matter distribution. Therefore, Equation (72) implies:

\[
\delta \Phi (r) = -\frac{GM}{r} - \frac{GM}{\lambda_0} \left[ 2 - \delta + e^\varsigma E_1(\varsigma) \right] + \frac{GM r}{L_N} (2 - \delta)
\] (85)

and:

\[
\delta E_g (x) = \frac{GM x}{|x|^3} \left[ 1 + (2 - \delta) \frac{|x|^2}{L_N} \right].
\] (86)

Here, \( M \) is the mass of the spherical rotating source in our linear approximation scheme, namely:

\[
M := \int \rho (|y|) d^3 y.
\] (87)

We note that Equation (85) here is consistent with Equations (8.39) and (8.40) of [16]. With gravitoelectric potential (85) and gravitomagnetic potential (80), the GEM metric (65) can now be used consistently in investigating nonlocal effects in GEM.

3.2. Gravitomagnetic Clock Effect in NLG

There is a special temporal structure around a rotating mass that is best expressed via the gravitomagnetic clock effect [35–38]. To illustrate this effect in NLG, let us assume that the gravitational source rotates about the \( z \) axis, \( J = J \hat{z} \), and write the GEM metric in the corresponding spherical polar coordinates. Under the transformation \( x^\mu \rightarrow (t, r, \theta, \phi) \), metric (65) takes the form:

\[
ds^2 = g_{tt} dt^2 + 2 g_{t\phi} dt d\phi + dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2,
\] (88)

where \( g_{tt} := -1 - 2 \Phi \), \( g_{t\phi} := -2 r \sin \theta A_\phi \) and we have neglected in our GEM approach the contribution of \( \Phi \) to the spatial part of the metric. In the local theory (GR), we have \( \Phi = -GM/r \) and \( A_\phi = (GJ/r^2) \sin \theta \). These potentials change in our nonlocal approach as follows:

\[
\Phi = -C_\delta - \frac{GM}{r} \left[ 1 - \frac{r^2}{L_N^2} (2 - \delta) \right], \quad A_\phi = \frac{GJ}{r^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{r^2}{L_N^2} (2 - \delta) \right] \sin \theta,
\] (89)

where:

\[
C_\delta = \frac{GM}{\lambda_0} \left[ 2 - \delta + e^\varsigma E_1(\varsigma) \right].
\] (90)

We are interested in the nonlocal modification of Keplerian periods of the equatorial circular orbits in this spacetime.
The geodesic equation for the radial coordinate takes the form:

$$\frac{d^2 r}{d\tau^2} + 0\Gamma^{\mu\nu}_{\mu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} = 0,$$

(91)

where $\tau$ is the proper time. This equation can be solved for $r = \text{constant}$ and $\theta = \pi/2$. The solution in the linear approximation under consideration is given by:

$$\frac{dt}{d\phi} = \frac{\delta_{r,r} - \frac{2r}{r^2}}{\delta_{t,t} + \frac{2J}{M}} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{r^2}{L_N^2}(2 - \delta)} \right).$$

(92)

Indeed, for $\theta = \pi/2$, we have:

$$\delta_{r,r} = -2 \Phi_r = -2 \frac{GM}{r^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{r^2}{L_N^2}(2 - \delta) \right], \quad \delta_{t,t} = \frac{2J}{M} \left[ 1 - \frac{r^2}{L_N^2}(2 - \delta) \right].$$

(93)

It follows from a detailed analysis that, as expected, deviations exist from the standard GR results for $\delta = 1, 2$. For an equatorial circular orbit with Keplerian frequency $\omega_K = (GM/r^3)^{1/2}$ and Keplerian period $T_K = 2\pi/\omega_K$, we find for the periods of co-rotating (+) and counter-rotating (-) orbits in terms of coordinate time:

$$t_{\pm} = T_K \left[ 1 - \frac{r^2}{2L_N^2}(2 - \delta) \right] \pm 2\pi \frac{J}{M} \left[ 1 - \frac{r^2}{L_N^2}(2 - \delta) \right].$$

(94)

and in terms of proper time:

$$\tau_{\pm} = T_K \left( 1 - \frac{3M}{2r} - \Delta_M \right) \pm 2\pi \frac{J}{M} \left( 1 + \frac{3M}{2r} - \Delta_f \right).$$

(95)

Here, we work to linear order in perturbation quantities and the nonlocal contributions are given by terms proportional to $r^2/L_N^2$, $\Delta_M$ and $\Delta_f$, where:

$$\Delta_M = C_\delta + \frac{r^2}{2L_N^2}(2 - \delta), \quad \Delta_f = C_\delta + \frac{2r^2}{L_N^2}(2 - \delta).$$

(96)

It is interesting to note that the prograde period is longer than the retrograde period, namely:

$$t_+ - t_- = 4\pi \frac{J}{M} \left[ 1 - \frac{r^2}{L_N^2}(2 - \delta) \right], \quad \tau_+ - \tau_- = 4\pi \frac{J}{M} \left( 1 + \frac{3M}{2r} - \Delta_f \right).$$

(97)

In GR, the gravitomagnetic clock effect for circular equatorial orbits around the Earth is given by $\tau_+ - \tau_- \approx 2 \times 10^{-7}$ sec. This prediction of GR has not yet been verified by observation. The GR effect is indeed rather difficult to measure since the Keplerian period of a near-Earth orbit increases by about $2 \times 10^{-7}$ sec when the orbital radius is increased by 0.015 cm, see [39–47] and the references cited therein. The magnitude of the nonlocal contribution to the gravitomagnetic clock effect for the Earth is smaller than about $10^{-10}$ of the GR value.

3.3. Gravitational Larmor Theorem in NLG

In classical electrodynamics, Larmor’s theorem establishes a local relation between the motion of a charged test particle in an electromagnetic field and its motion in the absence of the field, but in an accelerated system of reference. The gravitational version of this theorem is essentially Einstein’s principle of equivalence expressed within the GEM framework [27,28]. It is useful to point out that the theorem extends to nonlocal GEM as well.
Let us imagine an accelerated observer following a world line $\bar{X}^\mu(\tau)$ in Minkowski spacetime. Here, $\tau$ is the observer’s proper time. The observer carries an orthonormal tetrad frame $\lambda^\mu_\beta(\tau)$ along its path such that:

$$\frac{d^\lambda^\mu_\beta}{d\tau} = \Psi_{\alpha\beta} \lambda^\mu_\beta,$$

(98)

where $\Psi_{\alpha\beta} = -\Psi_{\beta\alpha}$ is the antisymmetric acceleration tensor. In analogy with the electromagnetic field tensor, we can decompose $\Psi_{\alpha\beta}$ into its “electric” and “magnetic” parts, namely $\Psi_{0\alpha} = \gamma_i$ and $\Psi_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} \omega^k$. Here, $\gamma$ and $\omega$ represent the invariant translational and rotational accelerations of the observer, respectively. Let us now introduce a geodesic coordinate system in the neighborhood of the accelerated observer. At a given proper time $\tau$, the straight spacelike geodesics normal to $X^\mu(\tau)$ form a Euclidean hyperplane. An event on this hyperplane with inertial coordinates $X^\mu$ will be assigned geodesic (Fermi) coordinates $x^\beta$ such that $x^\beta = \tau$ and $X^\mu - X^\mu(\tau) = x^\lambda \lambda^\mu_\beta(\tau)$. With these transformations, $dS^2 = \eta_{\mu\nu} dX^\mu dX^\nu$ becomes $dS^2 = g_{\beta\delta} dx^\beta dx^\delta$, where:

$$g_{00} = -(1 + \gamma \cdot x)^2 + (\omega \times x)^2,$$

(99)

$$g_{ij} = (\omega \times x)_i, \quad g_{ij} = \delta_{ij}.$$ 

(100)

A detailed discussion of these local coordinates and their admissibility is contained in [16]. In general, $\gamma$ and $\omega$ are functions of proper time $\tau$. However, in the present context of steady-state GEM, we assume that these accelerations are constants and do not vary with proper time.

A comparison of this flat metric at the linear order with metric (66) once we neglect its spatial curvature reveals that an accelerated observer in Minkowski spacetime is locally equivalent to an observer in a GEM field provided $\Phi + \beta = \gamma \cdot x$ for a suitable choice of the constant $\beta$ and $-2A = \omega \times x$, which means that $E_\parallel = \gamma$ and $B_\parallel = -\omega$, respectively. These GEM fields contain nonlocal effects; in this way, the gravitational Larmor theorem has been extended to the nonlocal regime.

An interesting application of the gravitational Larmor theorem involves the interaction of spin with the gravitational field. The coupling of intrinsic spin with the gravitomagnetic field has been discussed extensively and a brief review of the subject is contained in [27]. The effect is related to spin-rotation coupling via the gravitational Larmor theorem. The spin-rotation coupling for neutrons has recently been measured via neutron interferometry [48,49]. The extension of the gravitational Larmor theorem to the nonlocal regime means that spin-gravity coupling can likewise be extended to the nonlocal regime.

4. Gravitational Energy-Momentum Tensor

The traceless gravitational energy-momentum tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$ of NLG is given by Equation (34). Let us first compute the local part of this tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$, which is traceless as well, for the GEM case. To this end, we write Equation (15) in the form:

$$\kappa T_{\mu\nu} := C_{\mu\nu\rho} c_\rho^{\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{4} q_{\mu\nu} I, \quad I := C_{\nu\rho\delta} c_\rho^{\nu\rho},$$

(101)

and express the components of the torsion tensor in terms of the GEM potentials. That is:

$$c^2 C_{00} = \Phi_j, \quad c^2 C_{0ij} = A_{ij}, \quad c^2 C_{ij0} = A_{ij} - A_{ji}, \quad c^2 C_{ijk} = \delta_{ik} \Phi_j - \delta_{jk} \Phi_i,$$

(102)

and:

$$c^2 \epsilon_{000} = 2 \Phi_j, \quad c^2 \epsilon_{0ij} = A_{ij} - A_{ji}, \quad c^2 \epsilon_{ij0} = A_{ij} - A_{ji}, \quad c^2 \epsilon_{ijk} = O(c^{-2}).$$

(103)

It follows that:

$$I = \frac{1}{c^4} \left[ 4 E^2 - 3 \Omega^2 - 2 \sum_{ij} A_{(ij)} A_{(ij)} \right],$$

(104)
where we have used the relation:
\[ \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} A_{i,j} = \frac{1}{2} B^2 + \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} A_{i,j} . \] (105)

It is now possible to compute the components of the traceless energy-momentum tensor, which are:

\[ T_{00} := -\frac{1}{8\pi G} \left[ \left( E^2 - \frac{1}{4} B^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} A_{i,j} \right) \right] , \] (106)

\[ T_{0i} := \frac{1}{8\pi G} (E \times B)_i \] (107)

and:
\[ T^{ij} := \frac{1}{8\pi G} \left[ 2 (E^i \cdot E^j) + (B^i \cdot B^j) - \frac{1}{2} \delta^{ij} \sum_{m,n} A_{m,n} A_{m,n} \right] , \] (108)

where:
\[ A_{ij} := \sum_k A_{k,i} A_{k,j} - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \sum_{m,n} A_{m,n} A_{m,n} . \] (109)

These local results must be supplemented with nonlocal terms, i.e., we must go back to Equation (34) and compute $T_{\mu\nu}$, which contains nonlocal terms of the form:
\[ N_{\mu\nu}(x) = \int \chi(x - y) C_{\mu\nu}(y) \, d^3 y , \] (110)

where $\chi$ is the kernel of NLG theory in the Newtonian regime [16]. The explicit calculation of this kernel is rather complicated and is beyond the scope of this paper.

It is interesting to compare and contrast the local Equations (106) and (109) with those obtained via the Landau–Lifshitz pseudotensor $t_{\mu\nu}$ of GR [50] within the standard GEM framework [27,28]. To this end, it is necessary to assume a steady-state GR configuration (i.e., $\partial \Phi / \partial t = 0$ and $\partial A / \partial t = 0$).

Then:
\[ 4\pi G t_{00} = -\frac{7}{2} E^2 + \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} A_{i,j} , \] (111)
\[ 4\pi G t_{0i} = 2 (E \times B)_i , \] (112)
\[ 4\pi G t^{ij} = \left( E^i \cdot E^j - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} E^2 \right) + \left( B^i \cdot B^j + \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} B^2 \right) . \] (113)

The similarity between these different gravitational results and the corresponding electromagentic ones is noteworthy. In particular, imagine a steady-state configuration involving a rotating astronomical source with mass $M$ and angular momentum $J = J \hat{z}$. Then, it follows from the gravitational Poynting vector that there is a steady circulation of gravitational energy in the same sense as the rotation of the source with an azimuthal flow speed given in spherical polar coordinates by:
\[ v_s \propto \frac{J}{Mr} \sin \theta . \] (114)

The proportionality constant depends on the underlying theory of gravitation [27,28].

5. Discussion

We have developed gravitoelectromagnetism (GEM) within the framework of nonlocal gravity (NLG). Except for the trivial solution of field equations involving flat spacetime, NLG has no other known exact solution at present. We must therefore resort to the linearized theory, where GEM is possible for steady-state configurations. We have examined the nonlocal GEM corrections to
the stationary gravitational field of an isolated rotating mass in the weak-field and slow-motion approximations. Due to the existence of galactic length scales in NLG, the nonlocal GEM effects around the Earth or the Sun turn out to be at most about ten orders of magnitude smaller than the corresponding GR effects.

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization and writing, B.M. and F.W.H.; writing–review and editing, B.M.

**Funding:** This research received no external funding.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

**References**

1. Einstein, A. *The Meaning of Relativity*, 5th ed.; Princeton University Press: Princeton, NJ, USA, 1955.
2. Mashhoon, B. Limitations of spacetime measurements. *Phys. Lett. A* **1990**, *143*, 176–182. [CrossRef]
3. Mashhoon, B. The hypothesis of locality in relativistic physics. *Phys. Lett. A* **1990**, *145*, 147–153. [CrossRef]
4. Weitzenböck, R. *Invariantentheorie*; Noordhoff: Groningen, The Netherlands, 1923.
5. Blagojević, M.; Hehl, F.W. (Eds.) *Gauge Theories of Gravitation*; Imperial College Press: London, UK, 2013.
6. Hehl, F.W. Four lectures on Poincaré gauge field theory. In *Cosmology and Gravitation*; Bergmann, P.G., de Sabbata, V., Eds.; Plenum Press: New York, NY, USA, 1980; pp. 5–61.
7. Schouten, J.A. *Ricci-Calculus*, 2nd ed.; Springer: Berlin/Heidelberg, Germany, 1954.
8. Cho, Y.M. Einstein Lagrangian as the translational Yang-Mills Lagrangian. *Phys. Rev. D* **1976**, *14*, 2521–2525. [CrossRef]
9. Muench, U.; Gronwald, F.; Hehl, F.W. A small guide to variations in teleparallel gauge theories of gravity and the Kaniel-Itin model. *Gen. Relativ. Gravit.* **1998**, *30*, 933–961. [CrossRef]
10. Bohr, N.; Rosenfeld, L. Zur Frage der Messbarkeit der elektromagnetischen Feldgrössen. *K. Dan. Vidensk. Selsk. Mat. Fys. Medd.* **1933**, *12*, 8.
11. Bohr, N.; Rosenfeld, L. Field and charge measurements in quantum electrodynamics. *Phys. Rev. 1950*, *78*, 794–798. [CrossRef]
12. Mashhoon, B. Gravitoelectromagnetism: A brief review. In *The Measurement of Gravitomagnetism: A Challenging Enterprise*; Iorio, L., Ed.; Nova Science: New York, NY, USA, 2007; pp. 29–39.
13. Mashhoon, B. Gravitoelectromagnetism. In *Reference Frames and Gravitomagnetism*; Pascual-Sanchez, J.-F., Floria, L., San Miguel, A., Vicente, F., Eds.; World Scientific: Singapore, 2001; pp. 121–132.
29. Everitt, C.W.F.; DeBra, D.B.; Parkinson, B.W.; Turneaure, J.P.; Conklin, J.W.; Heifetz, M.I.; Keiser, G.M.; Silbergleit, A.S.; Holmes, T.; Kolodziejczak, J.; et al. Gravity Probe B: Final results of a space experiment to test general relativity. Phys. Rev. Lett. 2011, 106, 221101. [CrossRef]

30. Mashhoon, B.; Theiss, D.S. Relativistic lunar theory. Nuovo Cimento B 1991, 106, 545–571. [CrossRef]

31. Mashhoon, B.; Theiss, D.S. Relativistic effects in the motion of the Moon. Lect. Notes Phys. 2001, 562, 310–316.

32. Mashhoon, B.; Hehl, F.W.; Theiss, D.S. On the gravitational effects of rotating masses: The Thirring-Lense papers. Gen. Relativ. Gravitation 1984, 16, 711–750. [CrossRef]

33. Iorio, L.; Lichtenegger, H.I.M.; Ruggiero, M.L.; Corda, C. Phenomenology of the Lense-Thirring effect in the solar system. Astrophys. Space Sci. 2011, 331, 351–395. [CrossRef]

34. Renzetti, G. History of the attempts to measure orbital frame-dragging with artificial satellites. Cent. Eur. J. Phys. 2013, 11, 531–544. [CrossRef]

35. Cohen, J.M.; Mashhoon, B. Standard clocks, interferometry, and gravitomagnetism. Phys. Lett. A 1993, 181, 353–358. [CrossRef]

36. Mashhoon, B.; Gronwald, F.; Theiss, D.S. On measuring gravitomagnetism via spaceborne clocks: A gravitomagnetic clock effect. Ann. Phys. (Berlin) 1999, 8, 135–152. [CrossRef]

37. Mashhoon, B.; Gronwald, F.; Lichtenegger, H.I.M. Gravitomagnetism and the clock effect. Lect. Notes Phys. 2001, 562, 83–108.

38. Mashhoon, B.; Iorio, L.; Lichtenegger, H.I.M. On the gravitomagnetic clock effect. Phys. Lett. A 2001, 292, 49–57. [CrossRef]

39. Tartaglia, A. Detection of the gravitomagnetic clock effect. Classical Quantum Gravity 2000, 17, 783–792. [CrossRef]

40. Tartaglia, A. Geometric treatment of the gravitomagnetic clock effect. Gen. Relativ. Gravitation 2000, 32, 1745–1756. [CrossRef]

41. Lichtenegger, H.I.M.; Gronwald, F.; Mashhoon, B. On detecting the gravitomagnetic field of the Earth by means of orbiting clocks. Adv. Space Res. 2000, 25, 1255–1258. [CrossRef]

42. Iorio, L. Satellite gravitational orbital perturbations and the gravitomagnetic clock effect. Int. J. Mod. Phys. D 2001, 10, 465–476. [CrossRef]

43. Iorio, L. Satellite non-gravitational orbital perturbations and the detection of the gravitomagnetic clock effect. Classical Quantum Gravity 2001, 18, 4303–4310. [CrossRef]

44. Iorio, L.; Lichtenegger, H.I.M.; Mashhoon, B. An alternative derivation of the gravitomagnetic clock effect. Classical Quantum Gravity 2002, 19, 39–49. [CrossRef]

45. Iorio, L.; Lichtenegger, H.I.M. On the possibility of measuring the gravitomagnetic clock effect in an Earth space-based experiment. Classical Quantum Gravity 2005, 22, 119–132. [CrossRef]

46. Lichtenegger, H.I.M.; Iorio, L.; Mashhoon, B. The gravitomagnetic clock effect and its possible observation. Ann. Phys. (Berlin) 2006, 15, 868–876. [CrossRef]

47. Hackmann, E.; Lämmerzahl, C. Generalized gravitomagnetic clock effect. Phys. Rev. D 2014, 90, 044059. [CrossRef]

48. Danner, D.; Demirel, B.; Sponar, S.; Hasegawa, Y. Development and performance of a miniaturised spin rotator suitable for neutron interferometer experiments. J. Phys. Commun. 2019, 3, 035001. [CrossRef]

49. Danner, D.; Demirel, B.; Kersten, W.; Wagner, R.; Lemmel, H.; Sponar, S.; Hasegawa, Y. Spin - rotation coupling observed in neutron interferometry. arXiv 2019, arXiv:1904.07085.

50. Landau, L.D.; Lifshitz, E.M. The Classical Theory of Fields, 3rd ed.; Pergamon Press Ltd.: Oxford, UK, 1971.