

A variational approach to discretised initial value problems

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A.R., J. Nordström: arXiv:2307.04490,

see also JCP 477 (2023) 111942

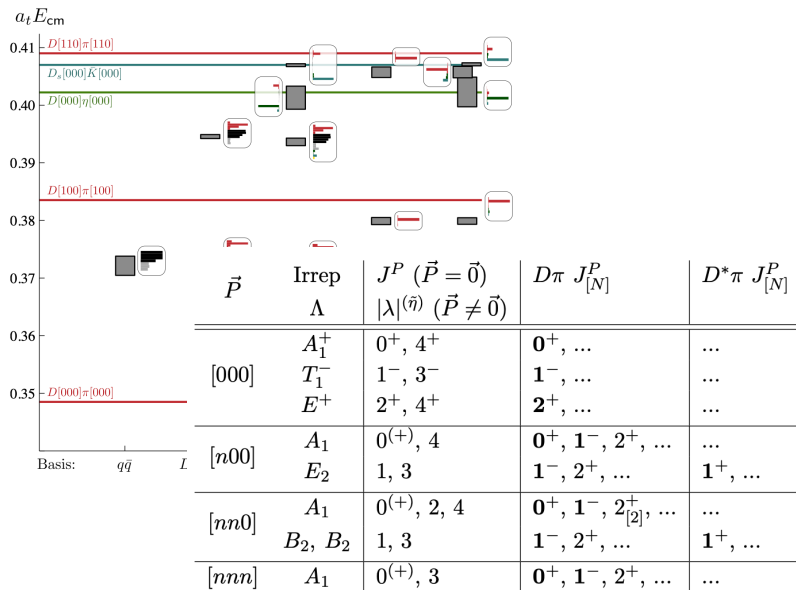


Norwegian Particle, Astroparticle
& Cosmology Theory network

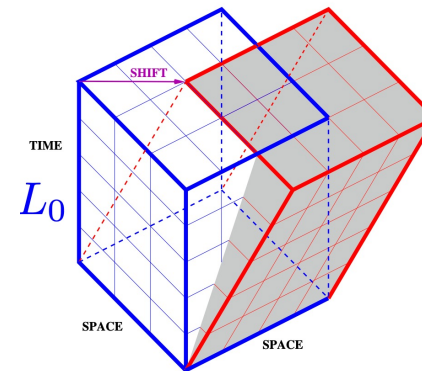
Symmetries on a lattice

Internal symmetries preserved through discrete formulation: local SU(N) via link variables, chiral symmetry via Overlap Dirac operator

Spacetime symmetries explicitly broken: absence of continuous translation and rotation invariance modify physics of orbital angular momentum and spin (mixing of otherwise orthogonal states).



$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{cont}} \text{ vs. } T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{latt}} = z_1 T_{\mu\nu}^{[6]} + z_2 T_{\mu\nu}^{[3]} + z_3 T_{\mu\nu}^{[1]}$$



POs PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENCE

Energy-momentum tensor on the lattice: recent developments

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Hadron spectroscopy

see e.g. HadSpec Collaboration JHEP 07 (2021) 123

Energy Momentum Tensor

see e.g. H. Suzuki PoS LATTICE2016 (2017) 002 and references therein

The conventional lattice approach

- Simplest case: non-relativistic point particle under the influence of a potential

$$\mathcal{S} = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \left(\frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2(t) - V(x) \right) dt$$

- Proving time translational invariance involved: replacement of $x(t)$ by derivative and bounds of integral are affected. Due to infinitesimal δt Noether theorem holds

$$x(t + \delta t) = x(t) + \delta t \dot{x}(t) \qquad \mathcal{S} \xrightarrow{t+\delta t} \mathcal{S}$$

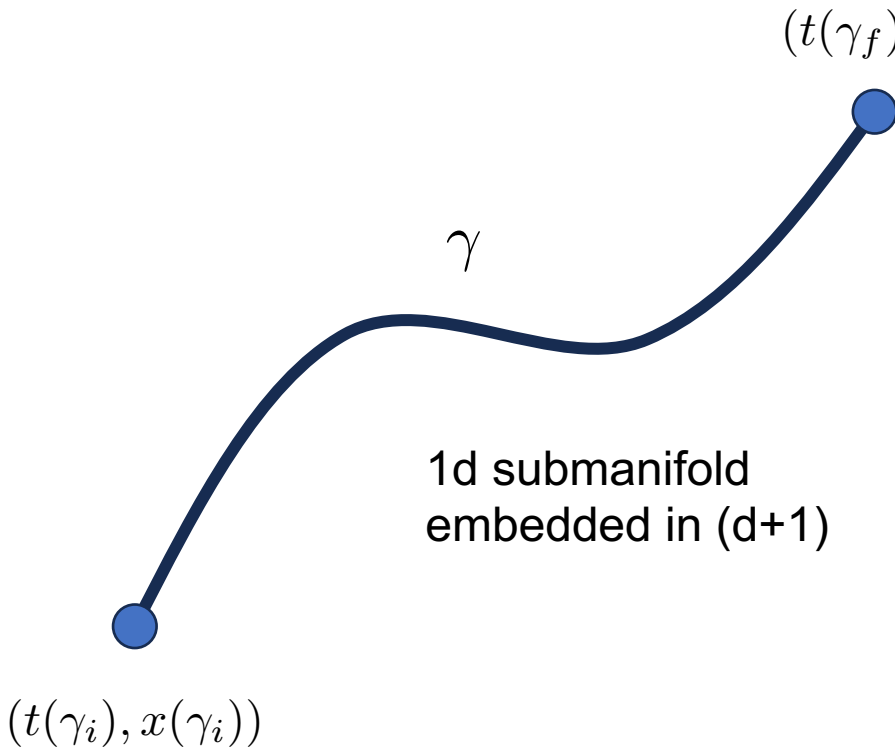
- After discretization: Δt finite, requires infinite sum for translation – unclear substitution at final time step. Noether theorem does not hold, i.e. energy not conserved

$$\mathcal{S} = \sum_{k=1}^{N_t} \left(\frac{1}{2} m (\mathbb{D}\mathbf{x})_i^2 - V(\mathbf{x}_i) \right) \Delta t_i$$

- Usual way out: go over to Hamiltonian picture where time remains continuous and implement symplectic time stepping for e.o.m. (energy conserved on average/staggering)

The worldline picture of GR

- Simplest case: free point particle in spacetime described by metric g



Trajectory of particle given by geodesic: “shortest path between points”

see e.g. S. Carroll “Spacetime and Geometry” Addison-Wesley

Variational principle via geodesic action

see e.g. J. Jost, X. Li-Jost ”Calculus of Variations” Cam.Uni.Press

$$S = \int_{\gamma_i}^{\gamma_f} d\gamma (-mc) \sqrt{g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\gamma} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\gamma}}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(\gamma_i) = \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}(\gamma_f) = \mathbf{x}_f$$



$$\frac{d^2 x^\alpha}{d\gamma^2} + \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \frac{dx^\mu}{d\gamma} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\gamma} = 0$$

- Reparameterization invariant $\gamma \rightarrow \gamma'$.
Time and position dependent on γ .

Symmetries in General Relativity

- Comparing of quantities at different space-time points non-trivial for non-flat metric
- Systematically identify conserved quantities via Killing vectors K :

see e.g. S. Carroll "Spacetime and Geometry" Addison-Wesley

$$\left(\frac{\partial K_\mu}{\partial x^\nu} - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha K_\alpha \right) + \left(\frac{\partial K_\nu}{\partial x^\mu} - \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\alpha K_\alpha \right) = 0$$

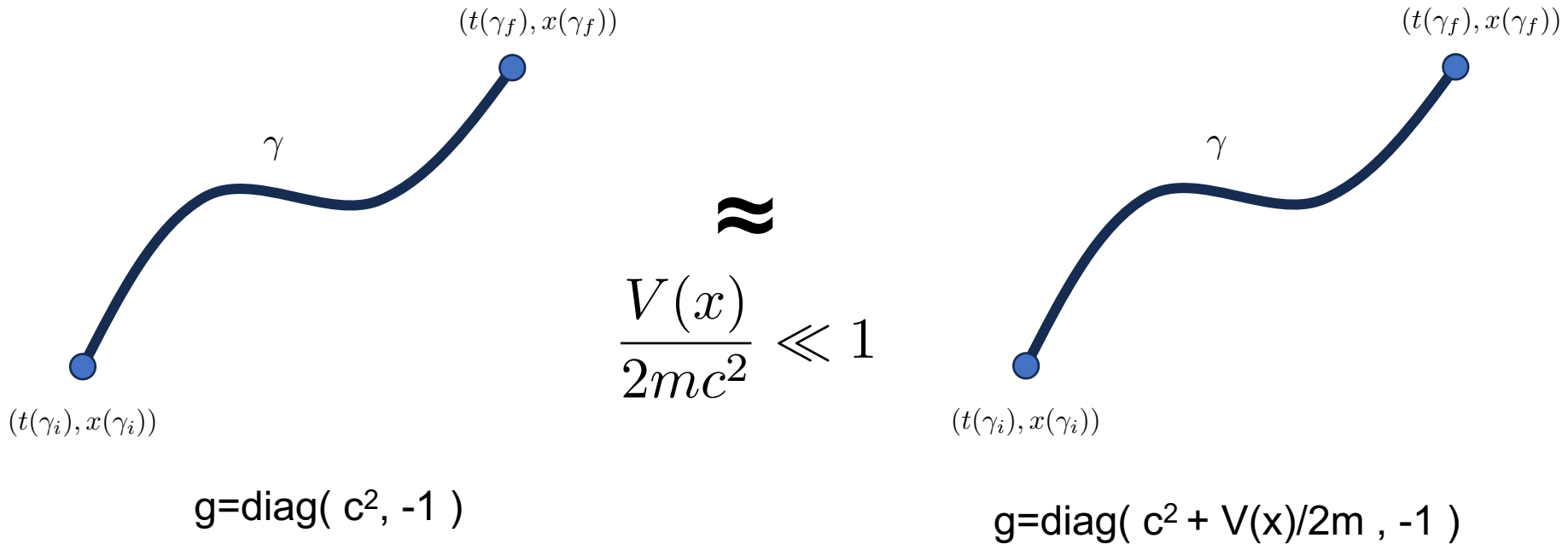
- Conserved quantities associated with K , constructed such that their dependence on the world-line parameter vanishes on the geodesic (c.f. Noether theorem on-shell)

$$Q_K = g_{\alpha\beta} K^\alpha \dot{x}^\beta \quad \text{relativistic Noether charge}$$

- Interestingly involves only a single derivative in case of translations, rotations or boosts.

Geometrizing the interactions

- Can one modify metric so that same trajectory ensues for non-interacting particle in a non-flat spacetime as for interacting particle in flat spacetime?



$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{flat}} = \int_{\gamma_i}^{\gamma_f} d\gamma (-mc) \sqrt{c^2 \left(\frac{dt}{d\gamma}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{dx}{d\gamma}\right)^2} + V(x)$$

$$\mathcal{S} = \int_{\gamma_i}^{\gamma_f} d\gamma (-mc) \sqrt{g_{00} \left(\frac{dt}{d\gamma}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{dx}{d\gamma}\right)^2}$$

- Yes: follows same logic as when deriving Newtons law in the weak gravity limit

see e.g. S. Carlip: General Relativity: A Concise Introduction. OUP Oxford

Modified geodesic action

- Reparameterization invariance is cumbersome for numerical optimization. Take instead the square of the integrand, which leaves extremum unchanged.

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{BVP}} = \int_{\gamma_i}^{\gamma_f} d\gamma E_{\text{BVP}}[t, \dot{t}, x, \dot{x}] = \int_{\gamma_i}^{\gamma_f} d\gamma \frac{1}{2} \left(g_{00} \left(\frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right)^2 + g_{11} \left(\frac{dx}{d\gamma} \right)^2 \right)$$

- Same geodesic equations ensure for S and E:

$$\frac{d}{d\gamma} \left(g_{00} \frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right) = 0,$$

$$\frac{d}{d\gamma} \left(\frac{dx}{d\gamma} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{00}}{\partial x} \left(\frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right)^2 = 0$$

Discretizing the geodesic action

- We discretize in the world-line parameter, not in the time variable:

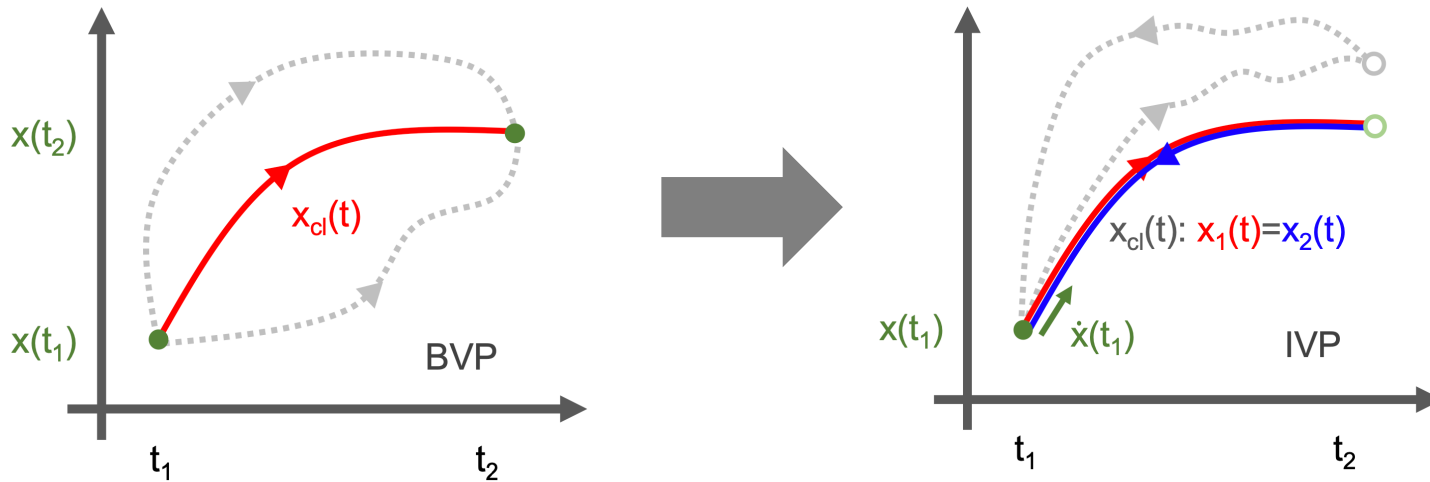
$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}_{\text{BVP}} = & \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left(\left(c^2 + \frac{2V(\mathbf{x})}{m} \right) \circ \mathbb{D}\mathbf{t} \right)^{\text{T}} \mathbb{H}(\mathbb{D}\mathbf{t}) - (\mathbb{D}\mathbf{x})^{\text{T}} \mathbb{H}(\mathbb{D}\mathbf{x}) \right\} \\
 & + \lambda_1(\mathbf{t}[1] - t_i) + \lambda_2(\mathbf{t}[N_\gamma] - t_f) \\
 & + \lambda_3(\mathbf{x}[1] - x_i) + \lambda_4(\mathbf{x}[N_\gamma] - x_f)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Note that the values of \mathbf{t} and \mathbf{x} remain continuous : explicit invariance under time translations in the discrete setting. No issue with boundaries of the action integral

- Metric and action are both invariant under shifts in \mathbf{t} -direction: $K_t = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Schwinger-Keldysh for IVPs

- So far everything as boundary value problem: not causal, need to know the final point of the trajectory to formulate variational principle.
(for a detailed discussion see A.R. J.N. JCP 477 (2023) 111942)
- One can show that using a classical Schwinger-Keldysh contour allows to set up a variational principle for initial value problems (C.R. Galley, PRL 110(17), 174301)



Non-linear potential example

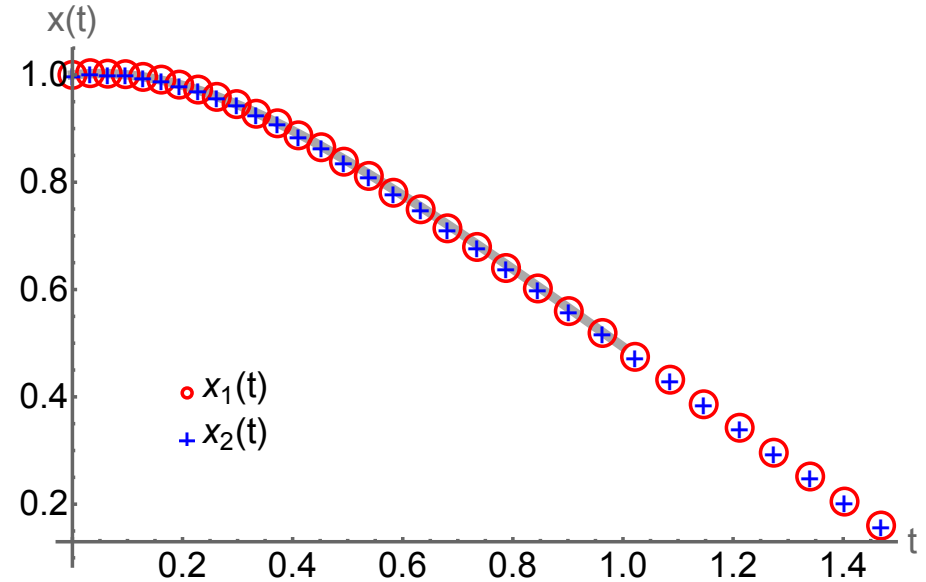
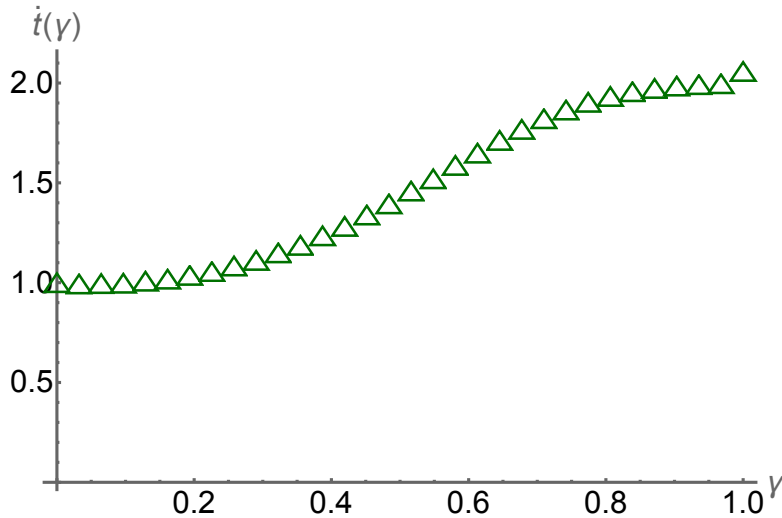
- Challenging non-harmonic $V(x) = k x^4$ as IVP with $k=1/4$ and $v_0=1/10$ $x_0=1$ $t_0=0$
(A.R. Jan Nordström arXiv:2307.04490)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}_{\text{IVP}}^{\text{qrt}} = & \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (\bar{\mathbb{D}}_t^R \mathbf{t}_1)^T \mathbb{d} [1 + 2\kappa \mathbf{x}_1^4] \bar{\mathbb{H}}(\bar{\mathbb{D}}_t^R \mathbf{t}_1) - (\bar{\mathbb{D}}_x^R \mathbf{x}_1)^T \bar{\mathbb{H}}(\bar{\mathbb{D}}_x^R \mathbf{x}_1) \right\} && \text{Forward branch } x_1, t_1 \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (\bar{\mathbb{D}}_t^R \mathbf{t}_2)^T \mathbb{d} [1 + 2\kappa \mathbf{x}_2^4] \bar{\mathbb{H}}(\bar{\mathbb{D}}_t^R \mathbf{t}_2) - (\bar{\mathbb{D}}_x^R \mathbf{x}_2)^T \bar{\mathbb{H}}(\bar{\mathbb{D}}_x^R \mathbf{x}_2) \right\} && \text{Backward branch } x_2, t_2 \\
 & + \lambda_1 (\mathbf{t}_1[1] - t_i) + \lambda_2 ((\mathbb{D} \mathbf{t}_1)[1] - \dot{t}_i) && \text{Initial cond. forward } t \\
 & + \lambda_3 (\mathbf{x}_1[1] - x_i) + \lambda_4 ((\mathbb{D} \mathbf{x}_1)[1] - \dot{x}_i) && \text{Initial cond. forward } x \\
 & + \lambda_5 (\mathbf{t}_1[N_\gamma] - \mathbf{t}_2[N_\gamma]) + \lambda_6 (\mathbf{x}_1[N_\gamma] - \mathbf{x}_2[N_\gamma]) && \\
 & + \lambda_7 ((\mathbb{D} \mathbf{t}_1)[N_\gamma] - (\mathbb{D} \mathbf{t}_2)[N_\gamma]) + \lambda_8 ((\mathbb{D} \mathbf{x}_1)[N_\gamma] - (\mathbb{D} \mathbf{x}_2)[N_\gamma]) && \text{SK connecting at } y_f
 \end{aligned}$$

- Note both x and t treated as IVP: no fixed end time of simulation set!
- Freedom to choose $v_0 = dx/dt = dx/dy / dt/dy$ we go with $dt/dy = 1$
- Technical aspect: need to lift unphysical zero mode of the SBP symmetric finite difference operator (for details see A.R. J.N. JCP 477 (2023) 111942)

Numerical results ($N\gamma=32$)

- Find the critical point of E^{qrt}_{IVP} using Quasi-Newton, Newton, Interior Point minimizer (A.R. Jan Nordström arXiv:2307.04490)



- Excellent agreement with direct solution of geodesic equation (gray solid)
- Note that time is not linearly dependent on the world-line parameter
- Times pacing adapts to the curvature of the position (automatic mesh refinement)

Naïve discretize geodesic equations

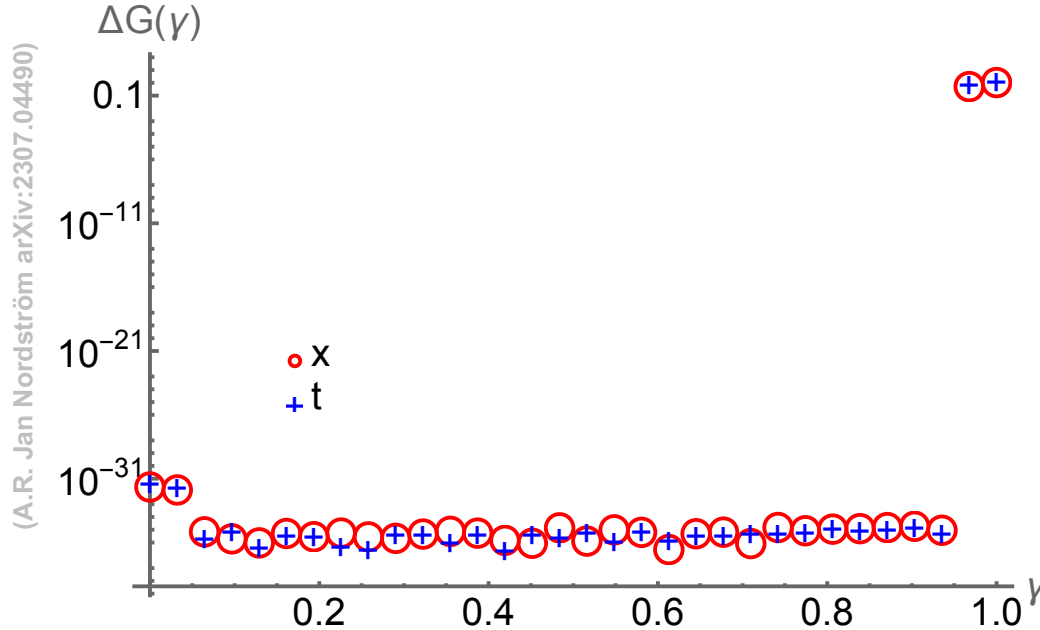
$$\frac{d}{d\gamma} \left(g_{00} \frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right) = \frac{d}{d\gamma} \left((1 + 2\kappa x^4) \frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right) = 0,$$

$$\frac{d}{d\gamma} \left(\frac{dx}{d\gamma} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{00}}{\partial x} \left(\frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right)^2 = \frac{d^2 x}{d\gamma^2} + 4\kappa x^3 \left(\frac{dt}{d\gamma} \right)^2 = 0$$



$$\mathbb{D}((1 + 2\kappa \mathbf{x}^4) \circ \mathbb{D}\mathbf{t}) = \Delta \mathbf{G}^t,$$

$$\mathbb{D}\mathbb{D}\mathbf{x} + (4\kappa \mathbf{x}^3) \circ (\mathbb{D}\mathbf{t}) \circ (\mathbb{D}\mathbf{t}) = \Delta \mathbf{G}^x$$

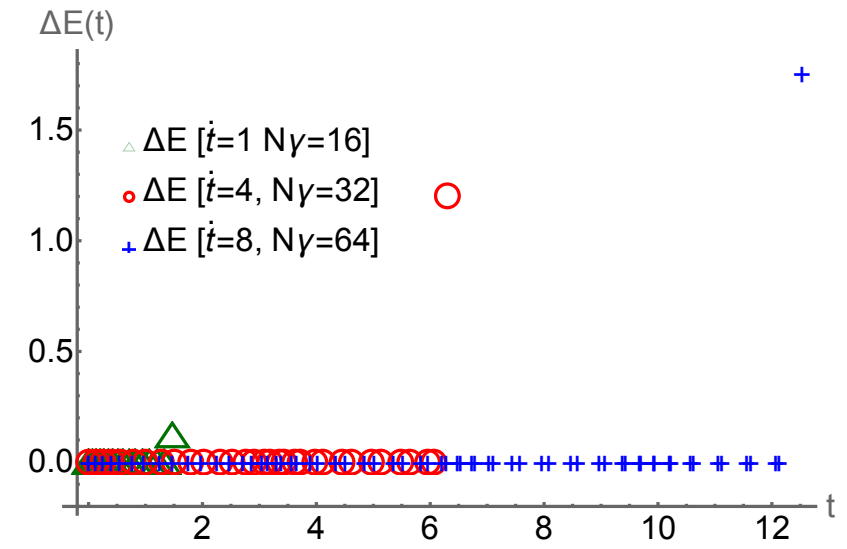
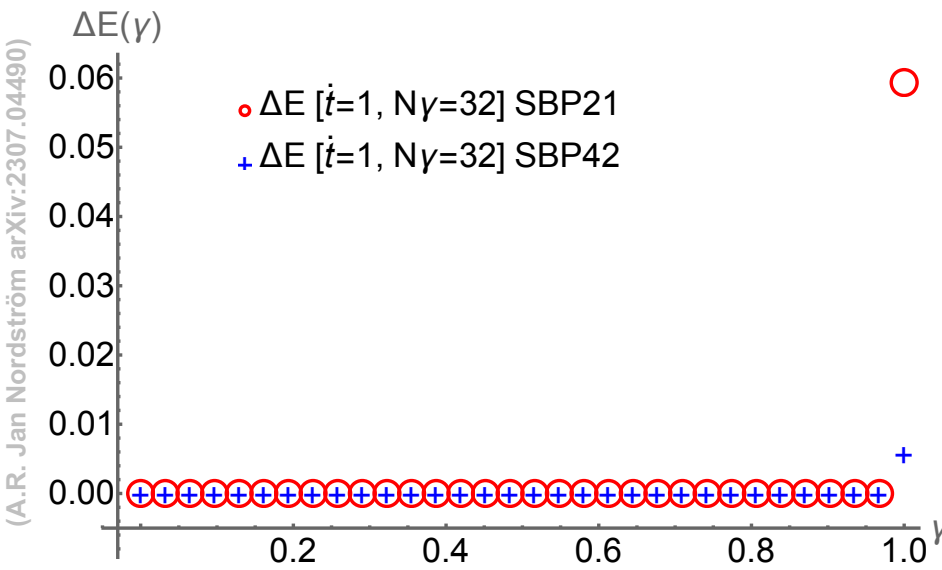


Exactly follows the continuum geodesic equation except for the last two points

Naïve discretize Noether Charge

$$Q_K = g_{\alpha\beta} K^\alpha \dot{x}^\beta \quad \& \quad K_t = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad Q_t = (\mathbb{D}t) \circ (\mathbf{1} + 2\kappa\mathbf{x}^4)$$

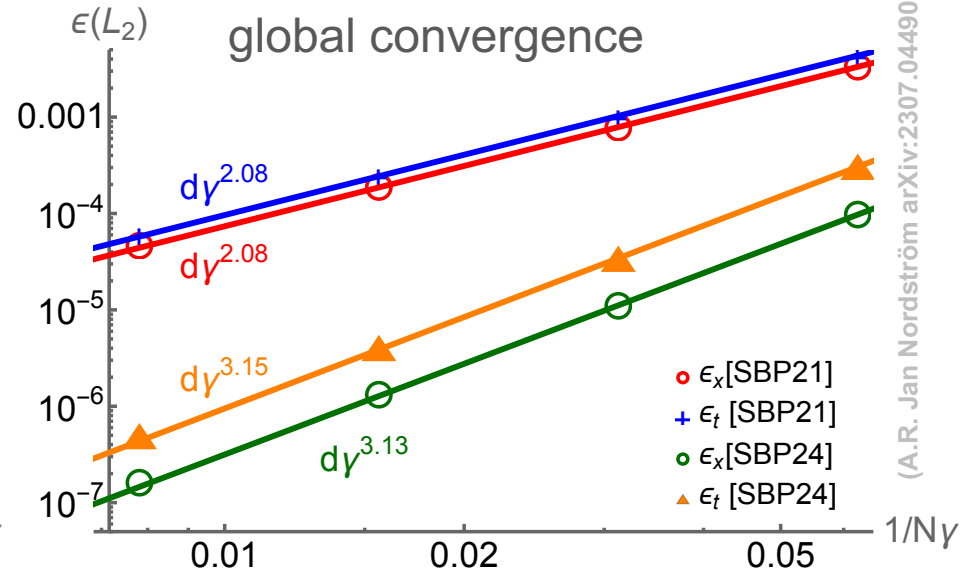
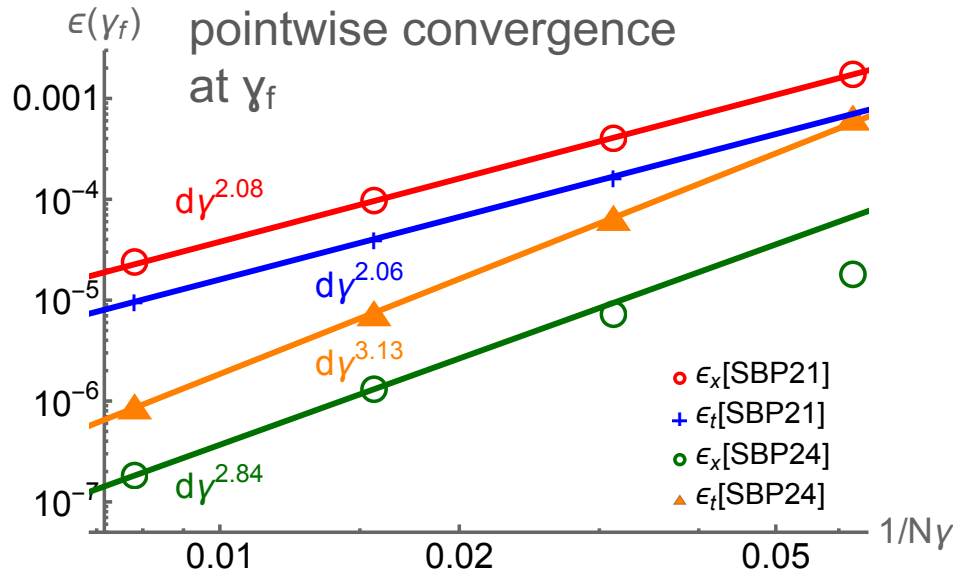
$$\Delta E = Q_t - Q_t = (\mathbb{D}t) \circ (\mathbf{1} + 2\kappa\mathbf{x}^4) - \dot{t}_i(1 + 2\kappa x_i^4)$$



- Exactly preserved in the interior of the domain, irrespective of time interval
- Preserved value is actually the **continuum value!**

Convergence

Does the last point spoil the approach to correct solution in the continuum?



(A.R. Jan Nordström arXiv:2307.04490)

Correct continuum limit reached with competitive scaling behavior.

Summary

- Novel geometric variational principle for IVPs, adopting the world-line formalism of a point particle in general relativity
- Both time and position are dependent variables on world-line parameter γ
geodesic action is manifestly invariant under space-time translations & boosts
- Discretizing in γ leaves time and position continuous and thus discretized action retains its continuum space-time symmetries
- Numerical implementation with summation-by-parts operators: exact conservation of relativistic Noether charge at continuum value in the interior of simulated domain
- Even though last point deviates, competitive scaling towards the continuum limit
- Future Goal: generalize to initial boundary value problems in $d+1$ dimensions
for systems such as the wave equation and Maxwell electrodynamics