

III. 1. Gauge invariance & scalar perturbations

In the lecture we stated that there are 4 scalar perturbations to the metric

$$ds^2 = a^2(\eta) \left\{ (1+2A) d\eta^2 - 2(\partial_i B) dx^i d\eta - \left[(1+2C) \delta_{ij} + 2\partial_i \partial_j E \right] dx^i dx^j \right\}$$

Consider a coord. transf. $x^\Gamma \rightarrow x^\Gamma + \xi^\Gamma(x)$ for which we identified the gauge transformations $h_{\mu\nu}(x) \rightarrow h_{\mu\nu}(x) + \delta h_{\mu\nu}(x)$.

a) find δh_{00} , δh_{0i} , δh_{ij}

b) Use this to write down the gauge transformations for A, B, C, E .

For this, decompose the spatial part of ξ^μ into scalar vector parts

$$\xi^i = \partial^i \xi + \zeta_i \quad \text{with } \partial_i \zeta_i = 0.$$

Show that 2 of the perturbations can be eliminated by picking appropriate coordinates.

c) verify the transformation properties by checking that the following variables are gauge-invariant

$$\Phi = A - \frac{1}{a} \left[a(E' - B) \right]', \quad \Psi = -C + \mathcal{H}(E' - B) \quad (\prime = \partial_\eta)$$

[if Φ & Ψ vanish in one coord. system, they vanish in any coord. syst.
 \Rightarrow a way to distinguish a real perturb. from fictitious one]