SPACETIME IMPEDANCE AND THE BIG BANG

James Conor O'Brien
ORCID ID 0009-0000-8895-2345
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Abstract: The concept of Spacetime Impedance as a tensor quantity $Z_{\mu\nu}$ is introduced and derived from the Einstein-Hilbert action and demonstrates its relation to the energy-momentum tensor. By contracting this tensor, we obtain a scalar quantity Z proportional to the energy density of the universe, establishing a relationship between spacetime geometry and fundamental physical quantities. This model allows for an impedance-matching condition between the Euclidean and Lorentzian domains, potentially influencing our understanding of wave transmission, tunnelling between these spacetime manifolds, and allows a mechanism for the Big Bang, and Dark Energy in extragalactic voids.

§1.1 Spacetime Impedance

The concept of impedance is well understood in electromagnetism and wave physics, where it governs the transmission and reflection of waves at boundaries. However, a general formulation of impedance for *Spacetime itself* has not been rigorously explored. In this work, we extend impedance principles to curved spacetime and propose a Spacetime Impedance tensor $Z_{\mu\nu}$ related to the Ricci tensor and energy-momentum tensor. This provides a novel interpretation of energy propagation in general relativity and quantum cosmology.

Let us assume an ansatz for "Spacetime Impedance" that is a measure of spacetime's intrinsic resistance to deformation by energy and motion. This quantity characterizes how spacetime opposes the propagation of distortions, such as gravitational waves, due to its geometric and physical properties.

To this end let's attempt a general equation for Spacetime Impedance for Euclidean $\mathbb{R}^4$ and Lorentzian $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ spaces in the form of a tensor,

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \tag{1}$$

To derive this, we use the variation of the Einstein-Hilbert action:

$$\delta S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} \right) \delta g^{\mu\nu} \tag{2}$$

Since the variation δS can be written as:

$$\delta S = \int d^4x \, Z_{\mu\nu} \, \delta g^{\mu\nu} \tag{3}$$

we can read off the definition of $Z_{\mu\nu}$ as

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \left(R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} \right) \tag{4}$$

This expression holds the Einstein tensor $G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu}$, allowing us to write the Spacetime Impedance as,

$$\boxed{Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} G_{\mu\nu}} \tag{5}$$

Where the factor $\frac{1}{16\pi G}$ sets the units to match the definition of impedance.

Since the impedance tensor is defined as the response of the action to metric variations, it makes sense that it is proportional to the curvature response. This comes directly from taking the functional derivative of the Einstein-Hilbert action with respect to the metric. This makes $Z_{\mu\nu}$ the natural gravitational analogue of an impedance tensor, describing how the action responds to deformations in spacetime geometry.

We can now show a deep connection to the Einstein Tensor and Energy-Momentum Tensor by examining the Einstein field equations

$$G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu} \tag{6}$$

we find

$$Z_{\mu\nu} \sim \frac{G_{\mu\nu}}{16\pi G} \sim \frac{T_{\mu\nu}}{c^4} \tag{7}$$

Furthermore, on contracting the Spacetime Impedance $Z_{\mu\nu}$ with the metric tensor, we obtain the "scalar spacetime impedance" Z

$$\boxed{Z = g^{\mu\nu} Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{3}{8\pi G} H^2} \tag{8}$$

and then applying the Friedmann equation

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho \tag{9}$$

we find the remarkable result implying the Z is the energy density of spacetime,

$$\boxed{Z = \rho} \tag{10}$$

Thus, Spacetime Impedance entails the tensorial structure of the Einstein tensor, the energy-momentum tensor, and the energy density, demonstrating its fundamental role in describing energy propagation in spacetime.

We next examine how this can be applied to Lorentzian and Euclidean manifolds.

§1.2 Lorentzian ($\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$) Spacetime Impedance

From our definition of the spacetime impedance as

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \tag{11}$$

we can also take the action for electromagnetism in curved spacetime as,

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g}\left(-\tfrac{1}{4}g^{\mu\alpha}g^{\nu\beta}F_{\mu\nu}F_{\alpha\beta}\right) \tag{12}$$

From this we can compute $Z_{\mu\nu}$ by varying the action with respect to $g^{\mu\nu}$,

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} = \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{4}F_{\mu\alpha}F_{\nu}^{\ \alpha} \tag{13}$$

In flat spacetime ($g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}$), we simplify to:

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \tfrac{1}{4}F_{\mu\alpha}F_{\nu}^{\ \alpha} \tag{14}$$

Now we can extract the Characteristic Impedance Z_0 of electromagnetism, by assuming a plane wave propagating in vacuum and writing,

$$F_{0i} = E_i, \quad F_{ij} = -\epsilon_{ijk} B^k \tag{15}$$

Thus, the relevant component of $Z_{\mu\nu}$ is:

$$Z_{0i} = \tfrac{1}{4} E_i B_i \tag{16}$$

Since the characteristic impedance of free space (Z_0) is defined as:

$$Z_0 = \tfrac{E}{B} \tag{17}$$

we immediately obtain:

$$\boxed{Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}}} \tag{18}$$

This shows that Z_0 naturally arises in Lorentzian space from $Z_{\mu\nu}$, this is important as the principle of impedance must applied consistently.

§1.3 Euclidean ($\mathbb{R}^4$) Spacetime Impedance

We again define the spacetime impedance tensor as:

$$\mathrm{Z}_{\mu\nu} = \tfrac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \tag{19}$$

For a general field theory in $\mathbb{R}^4$, the action takes the form:

$$\mathrm{S} = \int d^4x \, \sqrt{g}\, \mathcal{L}(g_{\mu\nu}, \phi) \tag{20}$$

where ϕ is a scalar, vector, or higher-rank field. The impedance tensor then follows as:

$$\mathrm{Z}_{\mu\nu} = \sqrt{g} \tfrac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \tag{21}$$

Now, in the Euclidean space ($\mathbb{R}^4$), consider a non-linear wave equation with a Lagrangian of the form:

$$\mathcal{L} = \tfrac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) \tag{22}$$

The corresponding impedance tensor is:

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\sqrt{g}}{2}\left(\partial_\mu\phi\partial_\nu\phi - g_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{L}\right) \tag{23}$$

From this we can write a soliton equation in $\mathbb{R}^4$ as a stable, localized solution to the field equation:

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta\phi} = \partial_\mu\left(\sqrt{g}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\nu\phi\right) - \frac{\delta V}{\delta\phi} = 0 \tag{24}$$

For specific choices of $V(\phi)$, such as:

$$\mathrm{V}(\phi) = \lambda(\phi^2 - \phi_0^2)^2 \tag{25}$$

This field equation admits topological soliton solutions, such as instantons or bounce solutions, which are localized in $\mathbb{R}^4$, with a finite action:

$$S_{\text{soliton}} = \int d^4x\ \sqrt{g}\mathcal{L}(\phi_{\text{soliton}}) \tag{26}$$

Since $Z_{\mu\nu}$ is proportional to the stress-energy tensor of the field, which is localized for soliton solutions, we conclude that:

$$Z_{\mu\nu} \text{ can be localized in } \mathbb{R}^4\text{, finite, and corresponds to a soliton} \tag{27}$$

Thus it can be seen the spacetime impedance tensor in $\mathbb{R}^4$ naturally supports solitonic solutions when applied to non-linear wave equations. This shows that $Z_{\mu\nu}$ in Euclidean space leads to solitons without invoking electromagnetism, which again is important as it allows the principle of impedance to apply in both $\mathbb{R}^4$ and $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ spaces.

Next we discuss how the impedances interact between domains.

§1.4 Impedance Matching Between Euclidean and Lorentzian Spacetimes

§1.4.1

Impedance mismatch determines how much of a wave is reflected versus transmitted when moving between different media, if we treat $\mathbb{R}^4$ and $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ as different "media" with different impedances, then the power transmission coefficient (T) is given by,

$$T = \frac{4Z_1 Z_2}{(Z_1+Z_2)^2} \tag{28}$$

substituting Z_4 for Z_1 for the impedance in $\mathbb{R}^4$, and $Z_{1,3}$ for Z_2 as the impedance in $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$. we arrive at

$$\boxed{T(Z_4, Z_{1,3}) = \frac{4Z_4 Z_{1,3}}{(Z_4 + Z_{1,3})^2}} \tag{29}$$

If $Z_4 = Z_{1,3} = 0$ this will be undefined.

If $Z_4 < Z_{1,3}$, the denominator is dominated by $Z_{1,3}^2$, meaning that transmission is suppressed, leading to reflection.

If $Z_4 > Z_{1,3}$, the denominator is dominated by Z_4^2, meaning that transmission is enhanced, leading to transmission.

If $Z_4 = Z_{1,3}$, transmission is maximized.

It is to be expected that the Big Bang takes place when transmission is maximized.

§1.4.2 Lorentzian Impedance for $Z_{1,3}$

Before the Big Bang in $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ the energy density is either zero or tends to zero and the curvature of Spacetime is flat, and we can assume that due to quantum fluctuations

$$Z_{1,3} = \rho_{1,3} \geq 0 \tag{30}$$

thus there will be states where $T(Z_4, Z_{1,3}) > 0$ is defined

After the Big Bang the spacetime impedance tensor is determined by the curvature tensor,

$$Z_{1,3} = g^{\mu\nu} Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{16\pi G}\left(R - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu}\right) \tag{31}$$

Since $g_{\mu\nu}g^{\mu\nu} = 4$ in 4D spacetime, this simplifies to:

$$Z_{1,3} = \frac{1}{16\pi G}(R - 2R) = -\frac{R}{16\pi G} \tag{32}$$

Using the vacuum result from Einstein's field equations:

$$R = 4\Lambda \tag{33}$$

we substitute into our expression for $Z_{1,3}$,

$$Z_{1,3} = -\frac{4\Lambda}{16\pi G} = -\frac{\Lambda}{4\pi G} \tag{34}$$

Taking the curvature scale as $R \approx 10^{-52}\,\mathrm{m}^{-2}$,

$$\Lambda = \frac{R}{4} \approx \frac{10^{-52}}{4} = 2.5 \times 10^{-53}\,\mathrm{m}^{-2} \tag{35}$$

Now substituting this into our expression for $Z_{1,3}$,

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{1,3} &= -\frac{\Lambda}{4\pi G} \\ &\approx -\frac{2.5 \times 10^{-53}}{4\pi(6.674 \times 10^{-11})} \\ &\approx -1.14 \times 10^{78}\,\mathrm{m}^{-2} \end{aligned} \tag{36}$$

Where the spacetime impedance $Z_{1,3}$ is directly related to the cosmological constant with an enormous magnitude.

§1.4.3 Euclidean Impedance Z_4

By definition Euclidean space is devoid of energy, matter and physics therefore, therefore the energy density of $\mathbb{R}^4$ before the Big Bang is assumed to be zero, accordingly the curvature R is also zero for a flat space and the Spacetime Impedance Z_4 is zero,

$$\rho_4 = Z_4 = 0 \tag{37}$$

So the Spacetime Impedance is constant for all of $\mathbb{R}^4$.

§1.4.4 Spacetime Tunnelling

In quantum gravity and early universe cosmology, transitions between Euclidean and Lorentzian regions appear in multiple contexts. These transitions involve the “emergence of real time evolution from a quantum phase”, and their probability is governed by the transmission coefficient (T), which depends on how well the impedances match.

$$T = \frac{4Z_1 Z_2}{(Z_1+Z_2)^2} \tag{38}$$

- Perfect transmission is never achieved as that only occurs when ($Z_4 = Z_{1,3} = 0$) which is undefined.

- If ($Z_4 \approx Z_{1,3}$), the transmission is high, and the universe naturally emerges into real time evolution, this only occurs when,

$$\rho_4 = \rho_{1,3} \to 0 \tag{39}$$

- If ($Z_4 \ll Z_{1,3}$), then tunnelling is suppressed, affecting the likelihood of universe formation. This leads to the presumption that once the Big Bang has occurred and matter has appeared with its concomitant energy density being much greater than zero,

$$\rho_{1,3} \gg 0 \approx -1.14 \times 10^{78}\ \mathrm{m}^{-2} \tag{40}$$

then not only is further matter formation is suppressed in $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ but importantly the reverse process of matter tunnelling back into $\mathbb{R}^4$ is prevented and the post-Big Bang universe settles down into stable state.

§1.4.5 Scalar Impedance Z and the Evolution of the Universe

If we compare the scalar impedance with Evolution with the Universe after the Big Bang we find the value of $Z_{1,3}$ depends on how the Ricci scalar R evolves over time. Since,

$$R = 6\left(\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} + \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 + \frac{k}{a^2}\right) \tag{41}$$

the scalar impedance will evolve as the Hubble parameter $H = \dot{a}/a$ and acceleration $\ddot{a}$ change with time.

Scalar Impedance in Different Epochs

1. Radiation-dominated era ($w = 1/3$): such that $a(t) \sim t^{1/2}$ for H = $1/2t$, so $R \sim 1/t^2$, leading to

$$Z_{\text{rad}} \sim -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \cdot \frac{1}{t^2} \tag{42}$$

2. Matter-dominated era ($w = 0$): such that $a(t) \sim t^{2/3}$ for H = 2/3t, so $R \sim 1/t^2$, yielding,

$$Z_{\text{mat}} \sim -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \cdot \frac{1}{t^2} \tag{43}$$

3. Dark Energy / Inflationary Era ($w = -1$): such that $a(t) \sim e^{Ht}$ for H = constant, so $R = 12H^2$, leading to

$$Z_\Lambda = -\frac{12H^2}{16\pi G} \tag{44}$$

Since R is tied to the curvature of spacetime, the scalar impedance behaves differently across cosmic epochs.

We do need, however, to determine how $Z_{\text{past}}/Z_{\text{future}}$ behaves across transitions like matter-radiation or dark energy dominance–possibly the relative values of (Z_4) and ($Z_{1,3}$) regulate the probability of universe formation in this model.

Experimentally as determined by cosmic red-shifts we can tabulate the timeline of the universe as table (1).

Table (1)

Epoch	Time	a(t)	Dominant Component	ρ kg/m³)	References
Planck	10^{-43} s	10^{-61}	Quantum gravity	5×10^{96}	[1]
Inflation	10^{-36} s	10^{-50}	Inflaton	10^{79}	[2]
Quark	10^{-6} s	10^{-14}	Radiation	10^{26}	[1]
Lepton	1 s	10^{-10}	Radiation	7.8×10^{10}	[3]
Photon	380,000 yr	1/1090	Radiation	1.1×10^{-15}	[4]
Matter	9 Gyr	0.75	Matter	6.4×10^{-27}	[3]
Dark Ages	150 Myr	0.01	Matter	2.7×10^{-21}	[5]
Galaxy	1 Gyr	0.1	Matter	2.7×10^{-24}	[3]
Acceleration	13.8 Gyr	1	Dark Energy	8.6×10^{-27}	[6]

We see the energy density and accordingly the spacetime impedance) drops dramatically on entering the Photon epoch, increases slightly during the Cosmic Dark Ages and Galactic formation, only to drop once more to approach the Matter Epoch in the Acceleration/Dark Matter epoch of 8.6×10^{-27} (kg/m^3).

§1.4.6 Inflation/Re-Inflation/Dark Energy

In this model Inflation is driven by the Principle of Least Action, entailed in the Einstein-Hilbert action. This action governs how spacetime geometry responds to energy and curvature,

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int R \sqrt{-g}\, d^4x + S_{\text{matter}} \tag{45}$$

Here, R is the Ricci scalar curvature, g is the determinant of the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, and S_{matter} includes the contributions from energy density, fields, and vacuum energy. The dynamics of spacetime are derived by varying this action with respect to the metric, and the resulting Euler-Lagrange equations yield Einstein's field equations.

As particles tunnel from $\mathbb{R}^4$ into $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ across the "Great Divide", this tunnelling event introduces a sharp increase in vacuum energy density $\rho_{1,3}$, which enters the energy-momentum tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$. Through the Einstein field equation,

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu} \tag{46}$$

The spike in ρ induces a corresponding increase in curvature. This means that the Ricci scalar R becomes large, and so the action S is no longer and extreme. To reduce the action, spacetime evolves — it changes its metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ to minimize the integral of $R\sqrt{-g}$. Since $\rho = E/V$, and we cannot easily reduce the energy immediately after tunnelling, the only route to lowering ρ is to increase the volume V. This leads directly to a rapid expansion of spacetime — Inflation.

In short:

- The sudden increase in energy density ρ increases curvature R,
- The Principle of Least Action (minimize S) demands a response,
- Spacetime expands to increase volume V, thereby lowering ρ,
- Lowering ρ reduces R, which reduces S,
- This expansion is exactly what we observe as Inflation.

So the evolution of the scale factor $a(t)$ is the system's path through configuration space that minimizes the Einstein-Hilbert action in the presence of high vacuum energy. Inflation is the geometric response of spacetime, via its metric, to minimize action after the asymmetry introduced by tunnelling. This aligns precisely with the variational principles at the heart of general relativity.

Furthermore, in the Acceleration epoch around 13.8 Gyr as the $\rho_{1,3} \to 0$ the process of tunnelling can recommence across the Great Divide between $\mathbb{R}^4$ and $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ this in turn restarts Inflation.

Similarly Dark Energy appears in the galactic voids once more as $\rho_{1,3} \to 0$.

Let $\rho = \rho(t)$ be the energy density of spacetime, and define the equation of state parameter as,

$$w(t) = \frac{p(t)}{\rho(t)} \tag{47}$$

For radiation, $w = \frac{1}{3}$, for matter $w = 0$, and for dark energy $w \approx -1$.

As $\rho(t) \to 0$, particularly in voids, we observe,

$$\lim_{\rho \to 0} w(t) \to -1 \tag{48}$$

which implies,

$$p(t) \to -\rho(t) \tag{49}$$

From the Friedmann acceleration equation,

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{4\pi G}{3}(\rho + 3p) \tag{50}$$

Substituting $p = w\rho$,

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{4\pi G}{3}\rho(1 + 3w) \tag{51}$$

If $w < -\frac{1}{3}$, then $\ddot{a} > 0$, leading to accelerated expansion.

In the limit $w \to -1$,

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho \tag{52}$$

This is positive, and thus expansion accelerates.

Therefore, as $\rho \to 0$, if $p \to -\rho$, then,

$$w(t) \to -1 \Rightarrow \text{vacuum pressure dominates} \Rightarrow \text{Dark Energy appears} \quad (53)$$

thus providing a mechanism that drives expansion via the negative pressure term in the Einstein field equations.

§1.4.7 Units

For tunnelling to take place between $\mathbb{R}^4$ and $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ what I'm calling the "Great Divide" we need to account for the units between the dimensions, since Z_4 and $Z_{1,3}$ are defined in different spacetime signatures they generally have different physical dimensions, therefore for the transmission formula to be meaningful the units of Z_4 and $Z_{1,3}$ must match,

$$Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \quad (54)$$

Since the action S) has units,

$$[S] = \text{Energy} \times \text{Time} = \hbar \quad (55)$$

And since the metric tensor ($g_{\mu\nu}$) is dimensionless, then the variation inherits the units from the action and the volume element.

For 4D spacetime, the volume element has purely spacial units

$$[\text{spacetime volume}] = L^4 \quad (56)$$

Thus, the impedance tensor must have units

$$[Z_{\mu\nu}] = \frac{[S]}{[\text{spacetime volume}]} = \frac{\hbar}{L^4} \quad (57)$$

This aligns with the impedance in $\mathbb{R}^4$

$$Z_4 \sim \frac{\hbar}{L^4} \quad (58)$$

Similarly for $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$, the impedance tensor has mixed units involving time

$$Z_{1,3} \sim \frac{\hbar}{L^3 T} \quad (59)$$

This shows that the spacetime impedance naturally picks up a phase factor under the Wick rotation, suggesting that the transition is analogous to an electrical impedance transformation. Clearly, however, Z_4 and $Z_{1,3}$ have different dimensions, such that

$$[Z_4] = \frac{\hbar}{L^4}$$
$$[Z_{1,3}] = \frac{\hbar}{L^3 T} \tag{60}$$

For the transmission coefficient to be well-defined, we need to reconcile these units, and we can fix the units using Wick Rotation,

$$t \to -i\tau \tag{61}$$

where Euclidean time (τ) has the same units as spatial coordinates L). This suggests that we can introduce a characteristic Euclidean time scale $\tau_E \sim L$), such that,

$$Z_4 \sim \tfrac{\hbar}{L^4} \quad \to \quad Z_4' \sim \tfrac{\hbar}{L^3 \tau_E} \tag{62}$$

By setting ($\tau_E \sim L$), we obtain,

$$Z_4' \sim \tfrac{\hbar}{L^3 L} = \tfrac{\hbar}{L^4} \tag{63}$$

Now we can match units,

$$Z_4' \sim \tfrac{\hbar}{L^3 T} \sim Z_{1,3} \tag{64}$$

Thus, by correctly accounting for Wick rotation effects, we get unit consistency in the transmission formula.

§1.5 Predictions and Tests

First derive the equation of state $w(Z)$ as a function of impedance, starting from the assumption that spacetime impedance is proportional to variations of energy density over the history of the universe,

$$Z(t) \propto \rho(t) \tag{65}$$

We can without loss of generality define pressure as a response to changing impedance, like a damping term in mechanical systems

$$p(t) = -\alpha \frac{dZ}{dt} \tag{66}$$

where α is a proportionality constant, this gives us an equation of state,

$$w(t) = \frac{p(t)}{\rho(t)} = -\alpha \frac{1}{Z(t)} \frac{dZ}{dt} \tag{67}$$

Let's use a standard cosmological form for energy density/impedance evolution

$$Z(t) = Z_0 \left(\frac{t}{t_0}\right)^{-n} \tag{68}$$

Where Z_0 is the spacetime impedance just before the Big Bang, then

$$\frac{dZ}{dt} = -nZ_0 \left(\frac{t}{t_0}\right)^{-n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{t_0} = -n\frac{Z(t)}{t} \tag{69}$$

Substitute this into our equation of state

$$w(t) = -\alpha \cdot \frac{1}{Z(t)} \cdot \left(-n\frac{Z(t)}{t}\right) = \alpha \cdot \frac{n}{t} \tag{70}$$

this yields

$$\boxed{w(t) = \frac{\alpha n}{t}} \tag{71}$$

So the equation of state evolves in time, approaching zero as $t \to \infty$, but diverging at early times. This gives us a time-dependent equation of state that behaves sensibly:

- At early times, $w \gg 1$: high pressure from high impedance — matching early inflationary behaviour.
- As time increases, $w(t) \to 0$: matter-dominated era.
- If we instead modelled $Z(t) \sim e^{-\beta t}$, we'd get $w = \alpha\beta$ — constant w, like for dark energy.

This allows for a testable prediction. If spacetime impedance Z(t) is fundamentally tied to energy density, then in cosmic voids, where $\rho \approx 0$, we should see signatures of low-impedance spacetime.

The following would be possible candidates in Cosmic Voids:

1. Refracted Gravitational Waves
- Gravitational waves entering low-density voids should refract, analogous to light bending through media with changing refractive index.
- Prediction: Apparent “lensing” or angular displacement of gravitational wave sources not matched by optical data.

2. Anomalous Time Dilation or Redshift
- As light or matter moves through regions of low impedance, propagation may accelerate or shift.
- Prediction: Slight deviations in cosmic chronometers or redshift-distance relations in low density regions.

3. Differential Cosmic Expansion
- In ultra-low-density zones, spacetime might “stretch” more easily due to near-zero impedance.
- Prediction: Voids may appear to expand faster than higher-density regions — an *anisotropic Hubble parameter.*

4. Directional Changes in Galaxy Motions
- If spacetime has varying impedance, gravitational accelerations may bend subtly through these “softer” regions.
- Prediction: Non-linear peculiar velocities of galaxies near large voids, deviating from predictions of ΛCDM.

- CMB Lensing Maps (Planck, ACT, SPT) for subtle shifts or distortions.
- Gravitational Wave Interferometers (LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA) for phase/time anomalies in different sky directions.
- Cosmic Voids Catalogues (e.g., from DESI, Euclid) to correlate spacetime "softness" with redshift distortions.
- Deep-field Surveys (JWST, Hubble) to track dimming or distortion through vast low density regions.

In other words this suggests a testable hypothesis where in regions as $\rho \to 0$, then spacetime impedance $Z \to 0$, permitting accelerated expansion, gravitational wave refraction, and potentially contributing to the observed effects of dark energy.

Conclusions

1. The Spacetime Impedance $Z_{\mu\nu}$ was derived as a tensor from the Einstein-Hilbert action S

$$\boxed{Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}} \tag{72}$$

It was shown there is a deep connection to the Einstein Tensor and Energy-Momentum Tensor,

$$G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \tfrac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = \tfrac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu} \tag{73}$$

we find

$$Z_{\mu\nu} \sim \tfrac{G_{\mu\nu}}{16\pi G} \sim \tfrac{T_{\mu\nu}}{c^4} \tag{74}$$

2. The scalar impedance of spacetime Z was derived by contracting the Spacetime Impedance $Z_{\mu\nu}$ with the metric tensor,

$$\boxed{Z = g^{\mu\nu}Z_{\mu\nu} = \frac{3}{8\pi G}H^2} \tag{75}$$

and then applying the Friedmann equation

$$H^2 = \tfrac{8\pi G}{3}\rho \tag{76}$$

we find the remarkable result implying the Z is the energy density of spacetime,

$$\boxed{Z = \rho} \tag{77}$$

3. The characteristic impedance of free space Z_0 was derived from the Spacetime Impedance $Z_{\mu\nu}$ by assuming a plane wave in $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$,

$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\tfrac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} \tag{78}$$

4. Values of Spacetime Impedance were given in the Euclidean $\mathbb{R}^4$ and Lorentzian $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ domains were approximated as,

$$\begin{aligned} Z_4 &= 0 \\ Z_{1,3} &\approx -1.14 \times 10^{78}\ \mathrm{m}^{-2} \end{aligned} \tag{79}$$

5. Possible tests are given for this model in the form of searching for gravitational wave refraction; gravitational wave interferometry; anisotropy for Hubble parameter, deviations in cosmic chronometers or redshift-distance relations; or acceleration of light (red-shifting) or matter through regions of low impedance regions as $\rho \to 0$ in the voids between galaxies.

Thus the use of $Z_{\mu\nu}$ for both $\mathbb{R}^4$ and $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ as a definition of Spacetime Impedance is justified from first principles; it is suggested that Spacetime Impedance may give mechanisms for the Big Bang, Inflation, and Dark Energy, however, as to what these mechanisms a definitive explanation is not given; and predictions in the form of looking for accelerated expansion and gravitational wave refraction in regions $\rho \to 0$ by considering the effect of spacetime impedance upon the cosmic equation of state.

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