

Torsion-Induced Corrections to the Schwarzschild Metric from Nieh-Yan Modified Gravity

Agastya Gaur Indranil Das

November 3, 2025

Abstract

We investigate black hole solutions in Einstein-Cartan gravity with a Nieh-Yan coupling to a scalar field. By evaluating the equations of motion for a Schwarzschild-like ansatz, we derive a torsionful correction to the radial component of the metric. The resulting modification depends on the scalar field's time derivative, introducing a constant rescaling to the radial term while preserving the Schwarzschild form in the absence of torsion.

1 Actions

We consider total action $S_{tot} = S_{EC} + S_m + S_{NY}$ composed of the following terms: the Einstein-Cartan gravitational action

$$S_{EC} = -\frac{M_{Pl}^2}{4} \int \varepsilon_{abcd} V^a \wedge V^b \wedge R^{cd}, \quad (1)$$

the scalar field action

$$S_m = \frac{1}{2} \int d\vartheta \wedge {}^*d\vartheta, \quad (2)$$

and the Nieh-Yan coupling

$$S_{NY} = -nf \int d\vartheta \wedge T^a \wedge V_a. \quad (3)$$

The curvature and torsion two forms are defined

$$R^{ab} = d\omega^{ab} + \omega^a{}_c \wedge \omega^{cb}, \quad (4)$$

$$T^a = dV^a + \omega^a{}_b \wedge V^b. \quad (5)$$

1.1 Equations of Motion

Varying with respect to the Vielbein yields the Einstein equations

$$\frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} R^{cd} \wedge V^b \varepsilon_{abcd} - 2nf(d\vartheta \wedge dV_a + d\vartheta \wedge \omega_{ba} \wedge V^b) = \tau_D, \quad (6)$$

where

$$\tau_D = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial^b \vartheta d\vartheta \wedge {}^*(V_b \wedge V_a) + \partial_a \vartheta {}^*d\vartheta)$$

Varying with respect to the spin connection yields the torsion constraint

$$\varepsilon_{abcd} T^c \wedge V^d = -\frac{2nf}{M_{Pl}^2} d\vartheta \wedge V_a \wedge V_b \quad (7)$$

Varying with respect to the scalar yields the Klein-Gordon equation

$$\partial_\mu (\sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \vartheta) = \frac{nf}{2} \partial_\mu (T_{\nu\rho}{}^a V_{a\sigma}) \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \quad (8)$$

When evaluating the Equations of Motion, we set $M_{Pl} = 1$.

1.2 Spin Connection

The spin connection is decomposed into torsion-free and torsion-induced parts

$$\omega^{ab} = \bar{\omega}^{ab} + \tilde{\omega}^{ab} \quad (9)$$

where

$$\tilde{\omega}^{0b} = 0 \quad \tilde{\omega}^{ab} = \phi(\tau) \varepsilon^{ab}_k V^k$$

2 Application to Black Holes

To model a static, spherically symmetric black hole, we adopt the generalized Schwarzschild metric

$$ds^2 = -e^{\alpha(\tau,r)} d\tau^2 + e^{\beta(\tau,r)} dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2. \quad (10)$$

This has the following metric tensor and inverse:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} -e^{\alpha(\tau,r)} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\beta(\tau,r)} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r^2 \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

$$g^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} -e^{-\alpha(\tau,r)} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-\beta(\tau,r)} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

The Vielbeins are

$$V^a{}_\mu = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\frac{\alpha(\tau,r)}{2}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\frac{\beta(\tau,r)}{2}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_a{}^\mu = g^{\mu\nu} \eta_{ab} V^b{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\frac{-\alpha(\tau,r)}{2}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\frac{-\beta(\tau,r)}{2}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V^{a\mu} = g^{\mu\nu} V^a{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} -e^{\frac{-\alpha(\tau,r)}{2}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\frac{-\beta(\tau,r)}{2}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \end{pmatrix}$$

2.1 Torsion Constraint

Evaluating the Torsion constraint with the general Schwarzschild metric and full spin connection we find

$$\phi(\tau) = -n f e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \vartheta_\tau \quad (13)$$

2.2 Einstein Equations

Evaluating the Einstein equations with the torsion-full spin connection yields the following differential equations:

$$e^\alpha (1 + r\alpha_r) - e^\beta (e^\alpha + 3n^2 f^2 r^2 \vartheta_\tau^2) = \frac{1}{2} r^2 e^\beta \vartheta_\tau^2 \quad (14)$$

$$e^\alpha (1 - r\beta_r) - e^\beta (e^\alpha - 3n^2 f^2 r^2 \vartheta_\tau^2) = -\frac{1}{2} r^2 e^\beta \vartheta_\tau^2 \quad (15)$$

$$e^\alpha ((2 + r\alpha_r)(\alpha_r - \beta_r) + 2r\alpha_{rr}) - 12e^\beta rn^2 f^2 \vartheta_\tau^2 = 2re^\beta \vartheta_\tau^2 \quad (16)$$

$$\beta_\tau = \alpha_\tau = \vartheta_r = 0 \quad (17)$$

So, we can say $\alpha = \alpha(r)$, $\beta = \beta(r)$, $\vartheta_0 = \vartheta_0(\tau)$. We introduce the standard Schwarzschild ansatz for e^α :

$$e^\alpha = a = 1 - \frac{C}{r} \quad \alpha_r = a^{-1} \frac{C}{r^2} \quad (18)$$

Evaluating eq.14 with the ansatz gives us

$$\begin{aligned} e^\beta &= \frac{1}{a} \left(1 + \frac{r^2 \vartheta_\tau^2 (\frac{1}{2} + 3n^2 f^2)}{a} \right)^{-1} \\ e^\beta &= \left(1 - \frac{C}{r} \right)^{-1} \left(1 + \frac{r^2 \vartheta_\tau^2 (\frac{1}{2} + 3n^2 f^2)}{1 - \frac{C}{r}} \right)^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

This corresponds to the Schwarzschild radial term modified by a torsion-dependent correction.

2.3 Klein Gordon Equation

Evaluating the Klein Gordon Equation yields

$$-2re^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha+\beta}\vartheta_{\tau\tau}(1+6n^2f^2)=0 \quad (20)$$

which requires the scalar field's time derivative ϑ_τ to be constant.

3 Torsionful Metric

The torsionful metric for a black hole then takes the form

$$ds^2 = - \left(1 - \frac{C}{r} \right) d\tau^2 + \left(1 - \frac{C}{r} \right)^{-1} \mathcal{T} dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2 \quad (21)$$

where \mathcal{T} is the torsional correction term

$$\mathcal{T} = \left(1 + \frac{r^2 \vartheta_\tau^2 (\frac{1}{2} + 3n^2 f^2)}{1 - \frac{C}{r}} \right)^{-1}$$

Because ϑ_τ is constant, the torsional correction \mathcal{T} remains constant, effectively rescaling the radial metric component.