

Lincoln, NE 68588, USA

November 11, 2025

Editors  
International Journal of Modern Physics D

Dear Editors,

Please consider the enclosed manuscript, “Mercury’s Mirror: A Flat-Spacetime Null-Shell Derivation of Perihelion Precession,” for publication in International Journal of Modern Physics D.

This work extends the causal framework developed in my recent World Scientific papers, “The Heretical Physicist: Revisiting Einstein’s Objection to the Event Horizon” and “No Passing Zone (Redux): Horizon Chasing in Evaporating Black Holes.” Here the same time-symmetric null-contact approach is applied to orbital mechanics in Minkowski space. Expanding the retarded-plus-advanced interaction to  $\mathcal{O}(v^2/c^2)$  yields a Darwin-type effective Lagrangian and the Binet equation

$$u'' + u = \frac{GM}{h^2} \left( 1 + 3 \frac{GM}{c^2} u \right),$$

leading to the standard  $\Delta\varpi = 6\pi GM/[a(1 - e^2)c^2]$  result and the full light-bending value. The derivation keeps dynamics conservative while shifting the interpretation from curvature to causal structure.

The manuscript is original and not under consideration elsewhere. It follows IJMPD style and length guidance and should interest readers working on alternative formulations of gravitation, time-symmetric dynamics, and precision solar-system tests.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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